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TRAVELS IN ISTRIA AND DALMATIA,

DRAWN UP FROM THE ITINERARY

OF

L. F. CASSAS,

AUTHOR AND EDITOR OF THE PICTURESQUE TRAVELS IN SYRIA, PHENECIA, PALESTINE,
AND LOWER EGYPT.

BY

JOSEPH LAVALLÉE,

MEMBER OF THE POLYTECHNIC SOCIETY,

OF THE SOCIETY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES OF PARIS, OF THE
AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF THE SEINE AND MARNE, &c.

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PREFACE.

THE motives which gave rise to the travels of M. Cassas being stated in the second part of this work, it would be superfluous here to repeat them; but the translator cannot refrain from offering a few remarks on the utility of publishing the researches of men of learning and talents, in countries once inhabited by people, the results of whose character and actions will be felt by the latest posterity.

The monuments which have been respected for ages, and whose fragments cover the soil of Italy, afford a sublime subject for meditation. Such remains of antiquity may be compared to the history of great men who have paid the debt of nature; and at the expiration of twenty centuries, afford examples to succeeding generations, of the vices which disgraced them, or of the virtues by which they have been immortalized.

On considering the state of the inhabitants who now occupy the scites of these celebrated ruins, we shall find a subject for reflection of no inferior importance. The inquisitive mind will derive pleasure from examining in what degree the present race of men resemble their celebrated predecessors; what may have been the cause of their degradation, or how far their manners, customs, internal policy, or even prejudices, may resemble those of the nations whom they have succeeded: in short, by such comparisons it will be ascertained whether the modern inhabitants possess, as strangers or as heirs, those remains of ancient grandeur by which they are surrounded.

In this respect travels in Istria and Dalmatia cannot fail to be peculiarly interesting.—On the one side these countries present, as it were, the skeleton of the Roman empire; on the other, particularly in Dalmatia, they exhibit a wandering and pastoral

horde, who perhaps have sunk progressively from an enlightened to a savage state. In one part, for example, we behold the splendid remains of the masters of the world; in another, a few ignorant tribes, living in obscurity and indigence. Here we see the mouldering columns of the palaces of the Cæsars; there the smoaky hut of the tasteless Haiduck; the spacious baths once appropriated to the use of beauty, and the infectious pallet of straw on which the debased Dalmatian reposes, a stranger to the endearments of conjugal affection.

In the course of his travels, M. Cassas made notes of every remarkable circumstance which came under his observation; and these have been arranged, corrected, and perhaps enlarged by the French Editor, from the literary part of the original volume. This task, as appears by the title-page, which contains the only information the translator possesses on the subject, devolved on M. Joseph Lavallée, well known in the annals of modern French literature, and a member of the Polytechnic Society of Paris.

The Editor of this edition thinks it necessary to state, that M. Lavallée has made a very considerable addition to the literary part of the original work, by an historical account of the countries through which M. Cassas travelled;—but as this is in a great degree a compilation, and has no reference to the Itinerary, it has not been included in the present translation; though many interesting passages have been selected from it, relative to the manners and customs of the inhabitants: these, however, were drawn up from the notes of M. Cassas, and compared with the accounts of those learned travellers, Spon and Fortis, with which they were found in substance to correspond.

F. W. B.

AN ITINERARY

FROM

LONDON TO CONSTANTINOPLE, IN SIXTY DAYS;

(TAKEN IN THE SUITE OF HIS EXCELLENCY, THE BRITISH
AMBASSADOR TO THE OTTOMAN PORTE,)

IN THE YEAR 1794.

THE expedition with which this journey was accomplished, necessarily precludes a minute description of the places through which we passed. The general face of countries, the peculiarities of ecclesiastical buildings, and the dress of the inhabitants, as they presented themselves to the eye, are the materials of which this work is principally composed. Between London and Vienna, all the great towns have been accurately described in various Tours and Gazetteers; and in the subsequent sketches nothing is collected from them. The few leisure hours which occurred in this long journey were amused, by noting down subjects immediately as they offered themselves, and as the opportunity suggested. They are limited in every respect; yet may serve to enliven, in a certain degree, the topographical precision which is attempted, as the more valuable information. Beyond Vienna, no accurate account of the stages has been hitherto published.

To those who are about to visit the Levant, it may be interesting to learn from a preceding traveller the route they may take; the pleasure they may anticipate; and the fatigue and danger which they must encounter.

March 20, 1794.	London	Miles,
	Dartford	15.

ITINERARY.]

We left London at ten o'clock at night, and slept at Dartford. The companions of our journey were Dr. S., professor of botany at Oxford, and Mr. G. M. a very ingenious artist; both of whom are since dead.

March 21.	Dover	- - - -	56
22.			
23.			

Sailed in a packet at two o'clock in the morning, under convoy of a frigate, Captain Lee.

24.	
Becalmed.	
25.	

Opposite to the coast of Flanders, with the town of Nieuport distinctly in our view. Landed at Ostend at five o'clock in the afternoon.

FLANDERS, CIRCLE OF BURGUNDY.

The novelty of appearance of the people standing on the beach was very amusing. They looked grotesque, compared with those on our side of the water, with their sabots or wooden shoes, and the head-dresses of the women large and angular, like those in Holbein's portraits. Even those of the inferior class wore golden crosses, which seemed to be with them a chief material of happiness.

The town is meanly built. In the church, which is large and modern, there is some good sculpture in wood.

March 26.			
At two P. M. left Ostend.	Posts.		English Miles.
Gastel.			
Yebeck Bruges	3		—
Alter	—	—	—
Ghent	2		36

The country near the sea is flat, and mounded by high sand-banks, with the fore-ground naked, and the horizon closed by continued villages, low spires, and wind-mills. Near Gastel, at seven miles distance, the landscape becomes more interesting; and it is remarkable, what very minute copyists the painters of the Flemish school have been. The cultivation is excellent, but

totally unpicturesque. The paved roads, of many miles extent, with plantations on either side, produce a tiresome effect, which might have been easily avoided, if, instead of abruptly branching off at right angles, they had been gradually incurvated. But that would not have been consonant to the genius of this land of rules and measures. Yebeck lies on the left hand, and exhibits all the characteristics of a Flemish village.

At Bruges 5 P. M.

Our stay in this city was limited to two hours. An air of stately sombreness pervades this spacious and well-built town. In the great market-place is the Stadt-house, the tower of which is a very lofty and curious structure; it is square for a very considerable height, and where a spire is usual, another octangular tower is placed upon it, almost as high; but the effect is rather surprising than beautiful. The cathedral is massive in all its parts, and apparently ancient. In so slight a survey, I did not perceive any ornament or style earlier than the time of our Henry VI.; and those matched with most incongruous additions. The Flemish Gothic is scarcely less fanciful and void of beauty, than that invented by English carpenters. The carillons or chimes played by hand, are very musical: and their agreeable melody is heard eight times in every hour during the day.

As we passed the gates of Bruges, at seven, the evening was closing; and as the darkness increased, we lost sight of the country, and did not reach Ghent before one in the morning.

March 27.

FLANDERS.

	Posts.	English Miles.
Quadregh	-	1
Aloost	-	1½
Asche	-	1½
Brussels	-	1½
		34.

Attended the early prayers in the cathedral, the internal decoration of which is splendid in the extreme, with incorrect Gothic, lined with pannels and pilasters of variegated marble, in the Italian style. Rubens's large picture of St. Bavon, one of his more celebrated works, eclipses the others which decorate the several altar-pieces. The sculpture, which abounds, has as much excellence of finishing, as inferiority of design,

In the town of Ghent, the houses appear to be large and singularly placed, with one end turned to the street, and gardens between each ;---a circumstance which favours comfort and seclusion, rather than magnificence.

Left Ghent at 10 A.M.

The surrounding flat country is as luxuriant and fertile, as nature and cultivation can make it; the roads are wide and level, but invariably straight. An hour at Aloost allowed us to see Rubens's picture of St. Roch interceding with Christ for the diseased of the plague, from which there is a print by P. Pontius. It is much less brilliant in point of colouring, than is usual with that great master.

The views become interesting by being broken into small vallies. At half-a-mile to the left stands the Benedictine convent of Affligham, the first we observed on the Continent. A large modern church and whitened buildings surrounding it, communicated an idea very different from the ruined abbey and its ivy-mantled walls---the picturesque and romantic were foreign to this scene. By the clumsy and grotesque shape of all the carriages which we met, we were greatly amused; a stage-coach in Flanders is an indescribable monster. Until the eye is in a certain degree familiarized, the different forms of common utensils, and the dress of the inhabitants, excite perpetual curiosity; and where more material objects, from want of opportunity, cannot be inspected, they agreeably supply the deficiency.

FLANDERS.

Arrived at Brussels at 4 P.M.

At the Hotel Belle-vue, an inn near the park, of such extent and magnificence, as to appear like a deserted palace. The rooms are hung with crimson damask, and a bed in each. The greater part of all large towns are alike, but the square, of which the Archduke's palace forms an entire side, with the grand avenue to the park, is, at least, not inferior to any thing in London. The walks, parterre, and coffee-house, are very pleasant. When Brussels was besieged by Marshal Villeroy, 2500 houses were destroyed in 48 hours; but there are now no marks of so great a calamity. Dumourier had quitted the city to the Austrians about twelve months. I observed no other proofs of his hostile visit, excepting that the Imperial ensigns were universally defaced. In the Old Town, which rises against a hill, the streets are irregular; but the very neat architecture of the streets and parades already mentioned, has a regular and splendid effect.

March 28.

Attended mass at the cathedral, the western façade of which is flanked by two towers of rich Gothic, which may be com-

pared to those of York on a smaller scale. The windows, pinnacles, &c. much resemble those of St. Mary, Redcliffe, Bristol, or any other fine specimen of the architecture of the fifteenth century in England. The first view of the interior is truly striking. Of the pictures, a few are good, but obscured by the silver altars and the painted glass, which are dazzling, and distract the attention. Modern repairs and decorations have been conducted with as little taste and propriety, as if they had been directed by an English church-warden. I was more interested by the Gothic canopies and statues, contemporary with the original structure, and some armorial portraits in stained glass. The greater part of that which is so much admired in England, was made in the Low Countries, or by Flemish artists, who were encouraged to settle there. The organ accompanied the choir; masses were celebrating at several altars, and a Capuchin friar was preaching in the nave to a very devout audience, with great energy, all at the same time. The town house is a very remarkable Gothic structure, with a central tower 364 feet high, which has a rich effect. The difficulty, or the expence of its construction, occupied forty-two years, having been completed in 1442. In the distant outline of the city, it is more commanding than from the towers of the cathedral.

The French army entered Brussels Nov. 14, 1792, soon after the battle of Jemappe, and quitted it March 23, 1793, after an engagement near Louvaine. They regained complete possession in 1794.

Left Brussels at 11 A. M.

	Posts.	English Miles.
Louvaine	- - 3	—
Tirlemont	- - 2	—
St. Tron	- - 2	41

The rising grounds about Brussels are picturesque. On the left, at a considerable distance, the new palace of the Duke D'Aremburgh has a bold elevation, and terminates a fine avenue. It displays a grand front, with a circular projection in the centre, finished by a lofty cupola. The landscape becomes very rich in chateaus and village-spires. Throughout Flanders, the roads are made with the greatest care, with a double plantation on either side, and the low hills levelled by ravines cut through them at a vast expence. The first view of Louvaine through one of these, is very pleasing.

At Louvaine, we could only wait one hour. It is a very ill-built city, compared with Brussels, and not much embellished by

the university, which is said to consist of forty-three colleges. An Irish student shewed me the college established by Pope Pius VI. which has one large quadrangle, not equal to many at Oxford and Cambridge. The number of residents exceeds 1100. The whole ecclesiastical patronage of the Netherlands originally granted to the university by the Popes, has been resumed by Joseph II. as one of his acts of reformation. I can imagine Louvaine to be much like Oxford two centuries ago. The gentleman told me, that the stipend of the founders, after taking a degree, did not exceed 100 florins (10*l.*) per ann. ; but their maintenance is supplied. Their dress is a loose coat, with small buttons and full skirts; a long vest, of silk, sewed to the shoulders, blue band, and even-sided cocked hat, with short hair. The fortifications, said to have an extent of four or five miles, in almost a complete circle, are ruinous and imperfect. Joseph II. found them universally neglected, and, by an ill-judged economy, suffered them to fall into total decay, by applying the funds for their maintenance to other purposes. But for this circumstance, the French could not have gained such advantages in the beginning of the war, in the Netherlands, which were half conquered in the minds of the people.

In the centre of the town of Louvaine, stands the Court-House, or *Maison de Ville*, which is a most curious specimen of the florid Gothic of the last school in England, where it must have been borrowed from Flanders. It is much larger than Henry VII.'s Chapel, and, if possible, more elaborately wrought. The roof is not concealed by a parapet, but extremely high, and studded with small turrets, or lanterns, corresponding with the style of the whole. I had not time to see the inside, or indeed several other works of art, which are well worthy inspection.

Gothic architecture in Flanders, when applied to the towers of these Court-Houses, as at Brussels, is peculiar and beautiful. A single shaft, circular, and resembling a large pinnacle, is carried up with nearly equal dimensions, to a great height, and filleted at certain distances, with projecting galleries, the parapets of which are perforated and embattled, and produce an extreme richness. This striking accompaniment is deficient at Louvaine.

The antiquarian traveller, who has seen the views of Henry the Seventh's palaces at Richmond and Nonsuch, will have a clear idea of the ornaments used in the architecture of an early period in the Low Countries.

The cathedral resembles several in England, as its plan is simple, and the building uniform. Two massive and lofty towers, without parapets, flank the western front. Their singular appearance is occasioned by their having formerly served as the bases of three spires, which were blown down in 1604,

That in the centre exceeded 560 feet, and the two others were, each of them, more than half that height.

The country between Louvaine and St. Tron, beyond Terlemon, resembles, with its neat white cottages and small inclosures, that part of Gloucestershire in which the manufacture of cloth is established.

Reached St. Tron at ten at night.

A vile town, where we slept, with poor accommodations, as the inn was pre-occupied by a Hanoverian regiment. So near as the road led to the French lines, this was the first appearance of war. Some trifling devastations, indeed, were observable where they had passed. Armorial ensigns were defaced, crosses overthrown and broken, and some trees in the road-avenues cut down and burned.

March 29, 6 A. M.

CIRCLE OF WESTPHALIA.

Posts. English Miles.

Tongres	-	-	$1\frac{1}{2}$	—
Liége	-	-	$1\frac{1}{4}$	—
Foron	-	-	2	—
Aix-la-Chapelle	-	-	$1\frac{1}{4}$	54

Near Tongres the roads lead through extensive and well-cultivated plains, but uninclosed. The skirting line, otherwise regular, is pleasantly broken by village spires, chateaus, and convents. As a singularity in the architecture, at least to the eye of an Englishman, so accustomed to battlements and pinnacles, all the towers, either of castles or churches, are finished by sharp conical roofs, or obtuse spires, covered with thin slate of different colours. It was necessary, in order to pass the Meuse, to go from Tongres to Maestricht or Liége, in our road to Aix. Near the last-mentioned, the ground becomes irregular, but not abrupt, and the slopes are clothed with low brushwood. The descent to the town, for more than a mile, is steep. On the right, is a large convent, and the bishop's palace. The suburbs, where we rested but a short time, are narrow and ill-built. The beggars were impudent and insatiable; and the women we saw, positively ugly. The latter wear a small, close head-piece of silk, without lace, concealing all the hair and exposing the ears. Beauty itself would have much to contend with in such a fashion. Ascending the opposite hill, the view of Liége is interesting, as the whole city, both on the acclivities and in the vale, is now seen, yet uncharacterised by any great or splendid building, excepting

the cathedral: I speak of them only in a bird's eye view; for of the very numerous churches and convents, some are described as beautiful. Several bridges over the Meuse afforded pretty catches of that low, sedgy river, with its windings under precipitate acclivities, which close in the romantic valley of Spa, so much frequented on account of its gay society and salutary waters.

Three regiments of Hanoverians detained us, on their march to the frontiers. The men were certainly well clothed and appointed, but they looked sulky, as mercenaries uninterested in their employment. In the streets of Brussels and Liége were crowds of emigrants, with many shabby coats and red ribands of St. Louis. They would have excited commiseration, had not their air, in general, been insolent and unfeeling; none of that decent acquiescence was to be discovered, which dignifies hard fortune.

Advancing a few miles nearer to Foron, the prospect gradually improves; the woodlands and winding valleys at the base of very steep banks reminded me of many parts of Gloucestershire. The course of the Meuse, like the Severn, is seen for a considerable distance; many of the objects are strikingly similar to England, especially in the neighbourhood of the Spa. The good roads are now passed; but, considering the meagre cattle and the rope-harness, we made a fair progress, about five miles an hour. No animal in Europe of its size has more strength than a Flemish horse, and none so ungovernable as their postillions, but dexterous enough.

Arrived at Aix-la-Chapelle, or Achen, at 9 P. M.
March 30.

WESTPHALIA.

	Posts.	English Miles.
Juliers -	1½	—
Berchem -	1	—
Cologne -	1½	—
Bonn -	1½	52

We rested at a very large inn, and stopped in a spacious room, in which the four plenipotentiaries met to conclude the treaty of Aix, in 1748. It had the peculiarity of having four doors exactly opposite, so contrived that by their entering the room upon a signal given, all at the same time, no interference could be made with the precedence claimed by either. Our ambassador was the late Earl of Sandwich. The German towns are crowded with nuisances, as our old English cities formerly were, before the modern spirit of accommodating the public prevailed to the present extent. They lose infinitely by comparison with those of

Flanders. Aix is very large, populous, and incommodious. The architectural form of the cathedral baffles all description. It is indeed totally unlike any other, as it has no length of nave or transept. The choir is a vast octagon of disproportionate height, but of the most elaborate finishing, and crowded with every particle of rich Gothic. It was made more striking by the celebration of high mass. At that time, the mausoleum of the Emperor Charles V. was entire, and the marble columns, its chief boast, had not been included in the spoil, afterwards transported to Paris. The situation of Aix, no less than the hot baths, of nearly equal celebrity on the continent, reminded us greatly of Bath, surrounded by lofty hills.

Between Aix and Juliers, the straight road is conducted through a wide tract of woodland and forest scenery. Farther on, the same spreading corn-fields recur, and the bounding distances are more bold and irregular. Juliers affords a specimen of a modern fortification upon Vauban's system. From a considerable eminence, Cologne (Colonia Agrippina or Ubiorum) is first seen at five miles distance, situated in the centre of an extensive and verdant plain.

This north-eastern view of Cologne extends for a great length, and is marked by 200 lofty spires or towers, with the cathedral as the most prominent feature. High lands surround it, and on the west side are serrated mountains above the Rhine. Between this point of view, and that of the University of Oxford from Botley Hill, there is a resemblance so strong as to bring either scene immediately to the recollection of those who have seen both. During our passage through Cologne, I observed little to retrieve it from the general character of German towns. It has no suburbs, but a lower town fortified, called Dayh, nearer the Rhine. The cathedral is of curious Moorish architecture. Our Charles II. passed the last two years of his exile at Cologne, preferring it to any other residence at that time in his power.

The French army entered Cologne, October 6, 1794, after the defeat of General Clairfayt.

As we looked back on this large and once celebrated city, it exhibited a fortification of more than sixty bastions and towers, such as were frequent in the provincial towns in England, three centuries ago, with embattled gates. Upon these numerous towers are placed sharp conical roofs, instead of battlements, by which they are degraded to the appearance of windmills. A degree of elevation relieves the landscape from this point, which, notwithstanding, would make a very stiff picture.

At Weysing (five miles distant) I caught the first sight of the Rhine, which is here very bold and smooth, with winding and flat shores, willowed to the brink. This small village, on a rising

ground, commands it on either side. The evening now was closing, and by the time it became perfectly dark, we entered the gates of Bonn. There was something particularly romantic in the ceremony of opening the gates, with the grating of the hinges and the draw-bridge, and the winding of the bugle-horn, which the postillions blew, as if in triumph, as they passed under arches. Circumstances of ancient chivalry immediately presented themselves to my mind.

	Posts.	English Miles.
March 31. At Bonn (<i>Aix Ubiorum</i>)		—
Remagen	- - - - 1	—
Andrenacht	- - - - 1½	26

We were received at "La Cour d'Angleterre," which is a very splendid hotel. The rooms, which are spacious and lofty, are all furnished with beds. The apparent advantage which the inns on the Continent have over those in England in point of extent and rich furniture, is totally lost in that of comfort. It is true, that the St. Sebastian at Ghent, the Cour Imperiale at Aix, and this at Bonn, are palaces; but the attendants are negligent in the extreme. When sitting down to sumptuous courses, we were waited on by one clumsy girl—a contrast more ludicrous than convenient. The host never makes his appearance. The head-dress of the lower rank of women in this part of Germany, exceeds every idea of ugliness. Their heads appear to be closely shorn, and their ears are not concealed. The men are habited much as in England.

As the streets of Bonn perpetually intersect each other, and are very narrow and awkwardly built, it must therefore rest its chief claim on its beautiful situation. The Elector's palace attracts all strangers. His proper residence is at Cologne, but constant disputes with the burghers induced one of his predecessors to remove his court to this place. It is certain that the Austrian family are universally unpopular; their exactions are oppressive and submitted to with a very ill grace. Had the French treated the religious opinions of the people with respect, no power could have dispossessed them of the Austrian territory; for otherwise the inhabitants were not displeased with their conduct.

The repairs necessary for the carriages gave us leisure to visit the Elector's palace and gardens. It was built by Joseph Clement, in the beginning of this century, and spreads to a great extent; it can boast no architectural beauty independently of mere magnitude, and one of the wings is still incomplete. A most

striking amphitheatre expands in front, formed by the mountains first seen above Cologne, every point of which is embellished by natural or artificial features.

At five P. M. left Bonn.

The road leads nearly through the centre of an enchanting valley, with the Rhine on the left. At about two miles distance, the hills on either side are broken into many eminences of parallel height and conical form, shrouded to their summits with low wood and vineyards. On the right, above a summer palace of the Elector, is the large convent of Leibenburgen, a white building, of a very capricious form. Advancing a mile or more, at an elegant Gothic cross (not unlike one of those erected by Edward I. in honour of his queen) a rich and luxuriant view is presented, the great feature of which, with its accompaniments, though far superior, immediately reminded me of Goodrich Castle, on the river Wye. The summit of an insulated mount is entirely occupied by the ruins of the castle of Gutesburg, and its acclivities are covered with the matted foliage of low trees. Many yards above the others, the Pharos, or round watch-tower, is seen rising in the exact centre, and is clustered with the other dilapidated buildings, the apertures of which affording a thorough light, gave a most romantic effect to the whole. It is, indeed, a superb fastness, more from the complete elevation of every part, than its great extent. Passing through the village which it overhangs, it assumes more grandeur, and seems to have been impregnably strong, when it sustained the memorable seige by Gerrard de Tousches. Beyond the village are some large houses lately built by the Elector for the company frequenting the mineral waters, which Mrs. Radcliffe, (p. 196) describes as a most pleasing resort. The road now stretches for many miles along the shores of the Rhine, under sharp precipices of brown rock, or shelving head-lands planted with vineyards. On the opposite side, are several populous villages, distinguished by their low spires of slate, and situated at the base of the many serrated hills, which are remarkable for naked crags or dilapidated towers, of the most romantic shape. The twilight, which at first threw a mild tint over them, now hid them in obscurity, and imagination only could picture those beauties, which reality had so much more happily supplied. At two in the morning, arriving at Andre-nacht, we retired to rest.

ELECTORAL CIRCLE.

	Posts.	English Miles.
April 1. Coblenz -	- 1	—
Montebaur -	1½	—
Limburg -	1½	39
	c 2	

This town, the frequent scene of military transactions, was once surrounded by fortifications and a large castle, now reduced to ruins, several towers of which, with Moorish brackets and battlements, are still perfect, and resemble those of Conway, in North Wales. The whole view, from the point we were quitting, was extremely pleasing. So bold are the shores of the Rhine, and so lively its maritime accompaniments, with bare rocks and mountains upon so majestic a scale, that the Wye, picturesque as it is, will fail in comparison.—The Rhine is rarely less than 200 yards across, and villages with their ports are frequent on its banks. I had time to examine the church at Andrenacht. It has four towers of exact resemblance to each other; those of the western front being the more lofty in a small degree. The nave is long and dark. In the upper tier of the towers are open arcades, or galleries of circular arches, and obtuse slated spires. Ecclesiastic edifices in this part of Germany are strictly similar, and partake of the Moorish and Gothic styles, with respect to open galleries on the inside, circular terminations of the choirs, small unclustered pillars and flourished capitals. The Moorish style was introduced by the Spaniards during their dominion in these provinces. Of military buildings I observed that the towers were generally circular, with an escalloped bracket projecting but slightly; and instead of battlements, a plain parapet and conical roof, which hurts the eye, and has a poor effect.—By their ruins only were we reminded of those, which add in so great a degree to the picturesque beauty of English landscape.

Leaving the Rhine, the country grows more campaign and open, with unbounded corn fields, sometimes varied by villages and convents, the spires of which are all alike, but they have universally great advantages of situation. Upon our left, the modern house of Count Newyck attracted our attention, as we seldom saw that description of building called gentlemen's seats, since we had begun our journey.

At Coblenz (*Confluentes*), the junction of the Rhine and Moselle, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The approach is truly interesting, as we crossed the bridge over the Moselle. Nothing can exceed in grandeur the view of the rock and castle of Ehrenbreitstein, the ancient residence of the Elector of Treves. The city has no splendour, at least, in the streets, which are irregular and narrow. A great curiosity is what is called the flying bridge. Two large boats are fastened together, and a platform placed over them with a cable fixed to the mast, and connected with several small boats placed higher upon the Rhine. The rudder turns it, and it is then moved by the current. From the quay, the perpendicular rock with the extensive fortress increases in effect, truly stupendous. At the

base, is a spacious modern edifice, the second palace of the Elector in point of antiquity, but being damp and incommodious, the present Prince has built another, on the opposite side. It is of the Doric order, and makes a handsome appearance. There is a motto placed in the front, which is happily chosen, as the inhabitant is hospitable and liberal.

" Clemens Winceslaus Vicinis suis."

Ascending the hill as rapidly as possible, we gained a bird's-eye view of the city, with the church built in the Moorish style, and Ehrenbreitstein now became level with the collateral heights. The outworks and bastions are on a vast scale, and the towers, of a modern form, are ingrafted in the solid rock, several hundred feet on the side above the river. In the annals of the late war, the siege of this castle will be distinguished as a most surprising event, whether we prefer the valour and perseverance of the besiegers, or the prudence and patience of the besieged, left destitute of succour. Ehrenbreitstein had formerly been considered as the impregnable safeguard of the imperial territory.

The deep dells, with sides of bare rock, of the schistous kind, the hanging vineyards and woodlands, or heath, were principal objects till we came to wide, unpicturesque plough-lands, and the town of Montebaur, where is an insulated rock, crested with a castle, modern and perfect. About a mile from Limburg, we saw the great church, which is founded on the cliff above the river Lahn. The western front is a copy of those before described, but it has likewise a taller spire between the nave and choir, which is open on the inside as a louvre, and two small ones on the north transept: so that they make a grove of sharp angles in the elevation. In these travelling notes, minute circumstances become important. The German cookery is in general good, excepting that in most of their dishes they are fond of a strong flavour, either of sweet or sour. But what they consider as sleeping luxuriously, I could not reconcile to my own feelings. I was placed between two feather-beds, the upper one of eyder-down, enclosed in a case similar to that of a pillow, turned up at the bottom; for a German, in sleeping, keeps his head and feet equally cool and exposed.

April 2.

		Posts.	HESSE CASSEL. English Miles.
Wirges	- -	1½	—
Königstein	- -	1½	—
Frankfort	- -	1	38

The ground about Limburg, in our progress, rises very high, afforded very distant views, and the landscape is broken into promontories, which are frequently covered by a convent or a castle. In a small valley we passed Seltz, so well known for its mineral waters, which contribute equally to health and luxury, when mixed with Rhenish wine. There are few buildings near the spring, excepting a pump-room and a large warehouse, with many heaps of stone jars for sale. The price of one of these was seven krentzers ($2\frac{1}{2}$ d.) at the spring. Leaving this small fortified village, we gained a wooded eminence of many miles in extent, and abounding in the grandest forest scenery. On either side were dells abrupt and deep, with rivulets opening to the most verdant meadows. The first appearance of spring was now perceptible, the foliage was far advanced, though incomplete, and under a bright sun the catching lights were beautiful. Many of the landscapes of Wilson and Gainsborough resemble this scenery. The scale of objects is certainly larger than in England, and the component parts have more magnitude in every feature without a diminution of beauty. In the effect we find grandeur, rather than prettiness.

At Koenigstein about mid-day.

This village and fortress were taken in the year 1795, by the French, whom the Prussians forced to evacuate, and they then burned the village, under pretence of having favoured their enemies. This universal desolation gave us a clear idea of the horrors of war in the countries where it is carried on. The solitary post-house was the only inhabited dwelling in the village, and which could afford us no refreshment. The road was execrably bad through a grove of oaks, which their excessive size rendered almost impervious. From the hill we had a first view of Frankfort (Helenopolis) but exhibiting no bold appearance or magnificent feature, whilst the amphitheatre of wooded mountains behind us, rose very majestically.

We entered the gates of Frankfort on the Maine, at 7 P. M. after having exhausted twelve hours in thirty-eight miles. In the German "Station" are two English miles and one-tenth part, so that a post may be averaged at eight miles and a half English. A very troublesome interruption in travelling through the German states, is the frequent change of the current coin. At the barriers, which are like our turnpikes, the demand is very disproportionate; and at every "station" or stage, our carriages were surrounded by people, claiming "smeargeldt," or money, for greasing the wheels, which they vociferously demanded, whether the operation was applied or not.

April 3.

		Posts.	English Miles.	PALATINATE.
Hanau	- -	1	—	
Dettingen	- -	1	—	
Aschaffenburg	- -	$0\frac{1}{4}$	$.27\frac{1}{2}$	

We were lodged at the "Rothe Haus," (*Maison Rouge*) said to be the largest inn in Europe. It consists of an extensive square, and another beyond it, of stables, with a garden. The apartments are really handsome, and the accommodations superior to any we had hitherto experienced. It fronts the widest street, which is magnificently built, and forms a strong contrast to the others, most of which are close and thronged with people, whose commercial bustle is incessant. Frankfort is one of the richest cities in Germany. In the street above-mentioned we went to see the house of a merchant then building, which in stile and dimensions equalled that of any nobleman in London. Others are splendid and costly, but in a heavy taste. They paint the stucco walls of their houses in this part of Germany, on the outside, so as to represent pilasters and other architectural ornaments of red or grey marble. As each floor forms a distinct habitation, the whole to the street appears to be one immense house.

Left Frankfort at 4 P M.

The surrounding country is a vast unpicturesque flat, in which orchards are numerous, and the Maine is wide and circuitous, with tame shores. The boats are navigated by means of horses, as upon artificial canals. We then traversed the plains of Dettingen, famous for the victory gained on the 16th June, 1743, by George II. in person, of which he was always pleased to converse; and what will render it more memorable, for which Handel composed his *Te Deum*.

At Aschaffenburg, 12 at night, by moonlight.

April 4.

		Posts.	English Miles.	FRANCONIA.
Bessenbach	- -	$0\frac{1}{4}$	—	
Rohbrüm	- -	1	—	
Esselbach	- -	1	—	
Langfert	- -	$0\frac{1}{2}$	—	
Würzburg	- -	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$57\frac{1}{2}$	

This small town has an easy ascent above the Maine. The palace of the Elector of Mentz is a sumptuous edifice of light

red stone, rising from a terrace with four high towers at the angles, as many complete fronts of 300 feet in length, inclosing a quadrangle, with cloisters. There are apartments sufficient for his numerous officers of state, and some fine suits of rooms, which the early hour prevented our seeing. One tower only of the ancient fortress is preserved, the rest has not been finished more than a century. In 1743, the English army held their headquarters in this town, before the battle of Dettingen was fought.

At 6 A. M. we left Aschaffenburg, and as we came nearer to the source of the Maine, it was more diversified and interesting; the shores luxuriant at the brink, and rising very boldly above many a winding valley of delicate verdure. After a gradual ascent we found ourselves in the forest of Spessertwald, inclosed within an oak fence of 12 leagues in extent. Shades so impenetrable afford secure covert for the stag, wild boar, and roebuck in great abundance, which are thus reserved for the Elector's hunting. Avenues sometimes narrow, but always gloomy, are cut through in various directions for the roads. The romantic descriptions of the chase and banditti, in which the German poets excel, are realized, at least, in appropriate scenery. A great number of these primeval oaks are in a state of decay.

A mile before Langfert, upon an acclivity above the Maine, is the grand convent of Trifenstein. So modern and white are the buildings, that it seemed to be a number of large houses clustered together, rather than an ecclesiastical structure. We judge of abbeys in England only from their remains, and connect them always with ideas of antiquity and Gothic architecture.

The town of Langfert is surrounded by craggy hills planted with vines, which produce a kind of wine of the Rhenish flavour. We passed the ferry over the Maine, about sixty yards across; and from a considerable eminence, we were gratified by many charming views of the river, which, towards the upper parts, becomes exceedingly picturesque.

At 8 P. M. we found ourselves at the gates of Wurtzburg.

April 5.

CIRCLE OF FRANCONIA.

	Posts.	English Miles.
Kizengen	- 1½	—
Passenheim	- 1	—
Langensfeldt	- 1	35

We surveyed the city, which has many handsome appendages; as the public buildings are numerous and splendid, and the houses in general commodious. The Bishop's Palace is a very spacious edifice; having a principal front of great elevation and extent, with a profusion of statues and pillars, heavy, but imposing in effect; yet the smaller ornaments of architecture are abundant and tasteless. It was designed by Roberr de Cotte, a French architect of great celebrity. In the garden-front there is a greater simplicity. Before Fischers, the Germans could boast no architect of talent, and several other electoral palaces were also built from French designs.—I had not before seen so complete a specimen of the art of gardening in Germany. Groupes of large images totally below any idea of statuary, parterres, bowers of lime-trees with correspondent alleys, compose the fantastic pleasure-grounds, which are peopled to imitate the Elysian Fields; but to the utter defiance of classical propriety, with groupes, busts, and single figures, beyond arrangement or number. The terrace upon the ramparts commands a fine view, with the citadel of Marienburg crowning a promontory, the convent of Capuchins, and the amphitheatre of vine-clad hills with the Maine spreading boldly at their base. Of the public buildings, the chief are the college of Nobles, that of the Jesuits, and the hospital. The tower of the great church is of light Gothic, ending in an open cupola upon Corinthian arcades and pillars. The internal decorations are clumsy; and multiplied, in small parts, to confusion and absolute deformity: there is scarcely a single pillar which is unappropriated to a shrine. The high-altar and its furniture are blazoned with massive silver, and in the nave is a long series of the sepulchral effigies of bishops.

Other edifices are heavy imitations of the French rather than the Palladian style. There are colleges of the Nobility of either sex, and the indispensable condition of being admitted, is the producing a coat of arms of sixteen quarters; which implies (otherwise than with the English heralds) that as many legitimate descents should be proved, eight of each parent, and all of noble families. This proof is seldom difficult; as the patronage is confined to a few houses, and offers a most valuable provision to the younger branches. The present (1794) superior of the Female Canons is a venerable old lady of ninety-five. A small chapter of St. Burgate (peculiar to Germany) wear habits of scarlet cloth. Over the Maine is a bridge of several arches, with Colossal statues placed on each pier, like the Ponte St. Angelo at Rome, which it is intended to imitate.

At the distance of a mile from Würzburg we mounted a steep hill, whence a boundless prospect was open to us, upon a grand scale in every part: we then passed through highly-cultivated

fields, level and dull; and the village-spires became more scarce and disagreeable, being of red tile. Passing through the village of Reppendorff, near Kizengen, we met the Emperor upon his route to the army in the Netherlands. His coach was drawn by the common post-horses; two valets sat on the coach-box; and his brothers, the Archdukes Charles and Joseph, accompanied him. Another carriage only, in which was Prince Colloredo, followed, but without couriers or guards. He appeared to be fatigued and pensive, and much engaged in reflections on this eventful period. We had before seen detached parties of his suite. Several waggons, some of which were drawn by fourteen horses, were conveying ammunition to the Imperial army from Vienna, through roads almost impassable, with the most vexatious delays, and at an enormous expence.—At Kizengen we staid but a short time: nothing can be more odious than the roofs of red tiles which occupy the whole view. We slept at Langenfeldt, which is a poor country-town.—The dress of the peasants in the different provinces through which we passed, even our rapid journey allowed us to observe with considerable amusement. Near Cologne, the women wear a kerchief of linen, with a low falling collar and slashed sleeves, as seen in the figures of peasants by artists of the Flemish school. As it was a holiday or fair at Langenfeldt, many girls were assembled. They wore their hair collected in a bunch behind, broad hats with shallow crowns, linen-jackets, and red petticoats, reaching only to several inches above the knees, blue stockings as far below them with red clocks, and very strong wooden shoes.

April 6.

CIRCLE OF FRANCONIA.

	Posts.	English Miles.
Emkirchen	1	—
Furnbach	1	—
Nüremburg	1	30.

We left Langenfeldt at an early hour, and passed through a cold country,—the highlands of Germany, remarkable only for neat agriculture and hop-grounds. That useful plant is cultivated here as much as in England; and is used in making a strong white beer, which is probably the barley-wine invented by the ancient Germans, and which is mentioned by the Roman historians, and even praised by the Emperor Julian in one of his Greek epigrams.

We reached the city of Nuremberg at 4 p. m.; and were lodged at the “posthaus,” an old inn with galleries round a court, of many years standing. The streets are in general very narrow,

and the houses lofty; the fronts of the latter being painted with gigantic figures supporting the roof, or sometimes with landscapes of extremely rude execution. There are two spacious churches. The spires of the larger are in a good style of Gothic, and are light and airy. The arcade of the great door is embellished with numerous bas-reliefs of scriptural subjects, of delicate sculpture, and as highly finished as if of bronze. Within are heavy modern galleries, two organs larger than those of any of our cathedrals, and a single crucifix many feet high standing before the altar; which is all that the Lutheran rubrick allows of.

Nuremberg is the Birmingham of Germany; but certainly inferior in the variety and ingenuity displayed in its toys. The best wire for musical instruments, and the most perfect inventions in clock-work, will be found at Nuremberg. There too the art of printing was established soon after its discovery; and the founders for types were celebrated as early as the fifteenth century.

April 7.

	Posts.	CIRCLE OF BAVARIA.
		English Miles
Feiicht - -	1 - -	- - -
Postbaur - -	1 - -	- - -
Temmingen - -	1 - -	- - -
Pursburg - -	1 - -	- - -
Labör - -	1 - -	- - -
Ratisbon - -	1 - -	60.

Before sun-rise we pursued our route from Nuremberg. The road at first leads through avenues in a forest of fir-trees, and a deep sandy soil; but breaks beyond Potsbaur into charming diversity of ground and forest scenery. One advantage which these pine-groves have over those in England, considered picturesquely, is, that they are seen in every stage of growth and foliage; with us, the trees are all usually planted at one time, and the exposure of the trunks always produce an ugly effect.

“ *Nigrâ nemus abiete cingunt.*”
VIRG. Æn. viii. 596.

As we advanced, the view was bounded by a ridge, breaking abruptly at each of its terminations: upon one of which were the ruins of a castle; on the other a neatly-built monastery, with its white taper spire, and the scene variegated with rocks and fir-groves.

As we continued our journey beyond Potsbaur, we were under the necessity of proceeding as far as Ratisbon, where we did not arrive till four in the morning.

April 8.

		Posts.	English Miles.	CIRCLE OF BAVARIA.
Pfäder	- -	1½	-	
Straubing	- -	1½	30.	

At Ratisbon, or Regensburg, (*Regina Augusta Tiberia*,) the same style of lofty buildings, with narrow incommodious streets, prevails, as in other cities which we had before seen, which are not enlivened by commerce, and have an appearance of great dullness. The Diet-ball of the Empire has antiquity only to recommend it; being greatly inferior, both in size and beauty, to many halls in England, particularly that of Westminster, and Christ-church Oxford. The cathedral is well worthy of examination; all its parts being of regular architecture, and probably of cotemporary erection. The western façade, and the towers, are enriched with pannels and arches of the florid Gothic, resembling those at Brussels; and the great portal is not less profusely and elaborately sculptured than that at Nüremburg. There is a strict correspondence of parts in the interior view, which exhibits the true proportions and the effect of the whole more perfectly than I had before seen on the Continent. Every window is embellished with stained glass; which is exhibited in that at the east end with peculiar richness, and there forms a section of an octagon. In England the stained glass has so rarely escaped mutilation, that we are in a great measure strangers to its true effect; as well as to that of statues, which are with us almost universally decapitated, or removed from their stations. Our Gothic structures, ornamented as they are, lose much by the appearance of vacant pedestals and niches, which our reformers and puritans despoiled of their accompaniments. This kind of ecclesiastical statuary is now seen in the highest perfection at Ratisbon. From the long old bridge I first had a sight of the Danube, that prince of rivers, with scenery interesting on every account, and extremely beautiful in itself. The ideas which originate in the importance of locality, and the contemplation of scenes which are famous in history, will here present themselves to every intelligent mind.

From this point of view, the fore-ground is busy, and abounds in objects: such as corn-mills built in boats, with a water-wheel driven by the current between two of them; immense floats of

timber, and small craft for conveying provisions to Vienna. The construction of these mills is useful and ingenious. I counted fourteen of them placed closely together, and appearing as if under one roof. There is much beauty in the broad surface of the Danube so completely occupied; and the view is very interesting, as the river meanders through a wide valley, and is flanked by bare and lofty promontories, of a description similar to those upon the Rhine. The town, on the right hand, wants elevation; and its best feature, the cathedral towers, having been left unfinished, (of which circumstance there are many proofs in Germany,) that deficiency is supplied by sharp roofs of red tiles. It has been said, that these superb buildings have been purposely left incomplete, that benefactions might be solicited on this pretence, the object to excite them being thus always in view; but it may be equally probable, that the original plans were of greater extent than the labour and piety of many centuries could supply. Certain it is, that while in English cathedrals we have scarcely an unfinished part though many have been destroyed, the fronts of the great churches in Germany, almost without exception, are deformed by the want of one, and sometimes of both, of the intended towers.

Quitting Ratisbon at 7 p. m. we proceeded (three posts) to Straubing, where we slept. The greater part of the road led through plains which offered no picturesque object to the eye, as the Danube was out of sight. The streets of Straubing are spacious, and the houses are neatly whitened with lime.

April 9.

CIRCLE OF BAVARIA.

	Posts.	English Miles.
Platling	- 2	—
Vilzhoven	- 2	—
Scharding	- 2	60

At Platling we crossed the Iser, over a decayed bridge of loose planks, under the guardianship of Nepomucene; whose painted effigy, with a hoop of irons resembling stars, and gilded, generally occupies that station. This St. John was a martyr and bishop of Prague, who was drowned because he would not divulge a secret committed to him as confessor; and these stars appeared, and discovered the spot at which his body had sunk to the bottom of the river.

Soon afterward, to the left, was open to us the great ridge of mountains in the Upper Palatinate (*Hercynii Montes*); which, being of vast extent, form a very magnificent boundary to a truly

interesting picture. The Danube flows smoothly under an accumulation of swelling banks, tufted with pine and matted foliage; which in one spot is relieved by a dilapidated castle, of most picturesque composition: indeed, a more completely engaging landscape can rarely exist. We then passed the modern castellated mansion of Altenburg; proudly overlooking, from a considerable eminence, the surrounding seignory, and in a valley the large convent of Flürstenschanz. Every thing around us had the air of feudal grandeur and of the domain of a German baron, as represented in plays and novels. The Alps in the Tyrol were now first seen, breaking under the extremity of the horizon. About a mile from Scharding, the closing front-view of these immense mountains extends at least a hundred miles, being at the distance of about eighty. Whoever has not seen them even at this distance, would gain but an imperfect idea from the most happy description. The eternal snows on the summits were blended with the incumbent clouds, and only distinguishable from these by their greater transparency. A variety of masses so august, and so fantastically formed, exceeds all that imagination can place in scenes of her own creation; these mountains are in reality, " stretching from earth to heaven."

APRIL 10.

AUSTRIA.

	Posts.	English Miles.
Beyersbach	2	—
Efferding	1½	—
Lintz	1½	—
Eins	1½	65

Soon after sunrise we departed from Scharding, where we found nothing remarkable. Crossing the wide and shoaly river Inn near its junction with the Danube, the country was uniform, but agreeable and unmasked, till we gained another view of the Alps; which were now shifted to the right, and the eye left with regret such sublime objects. They were embosomed in clouds more than half-way down, towering with their heads above them. The whole reflected the rays of the morning-sun.

In this part of Austria, the construction of the cottages is admirable for their contrivance and utility, and no less for picturesque form. They are built intirely of planks; with low flat roofs projecting considerably over the front, which has generally three or four tiers of open galleries, communicating with the chambers by means of galleries on the outside. Their simplicity and scrupulous neatness accord most beautifully with the

landscape; the wildness of which is contrasted by trim gardens and inclosures, which evince the industry and correct habits of the German peasantry.

Before we came to Efferding, the Alps had imperceptibly receded from our sight; but some compensation was made by cheerful fields and woodlands, which lost much beauty by the tiresome recurrence of the fir-tree, producing no variety except in its size.

At Weldaren-closter, which is a very spacious monastery, we again found ourselves on the banks of the Danube; which now wears the appearance of a bay with uncovered shoals, and owes all its beauty to its fullness. As the shores contracted, the reaches of the river were bolder and more even. The road runs close to the brink; which, for the safety of travellers, is secured by rails for two miles. Every step we advanced, displayed a more interesting point of view. The side-screen, composed of perpendicular rock, naked and expanded; the sombre tints of the pine and oak, blended and harmonized with the tender hues of weeping birch-tree and hornbeam, now bursting into foliage; completed a mass of exquisite combination and colouring.

“ Woods over woods, in gay theatric pride,

“ Well mass'd, yet varied, deck the mountain's side.”

says Goldsmith of the Appenines; but I question if his description be not more appropriate to this scene, than to any I afterwards saw in the north of Italy, in my way from Rome to Verona.

Huge fragments of rock had fallen to the base, and added much to the effect. The surface of these headlands breaks into sharp spiral points, discovered through the otherwise impervious groves on their acclivities. A succession of swelling knowls with small glens, branching off, and sweetly wooded, compose the opposite shores. Many of the cottages have picturesque sites; which, with their partial cultivation, offer a perfect school of landscape, in most interesting variety. This grand vista, always changing its objects both in the sides and extremities, affords the eye no rest, and excites admiration both of its variety and beauty. At an extreme height is the Carthusian convent of Bethleem-burg, with its “heaven-directed spire,” to which the devout of both sexes make frequent pilgrimages. I have dwelt with more minuteness on these scenes, as the only point of view in which I saw the Danube as a very picturesque river, or to be considered as rivaling the Rhine in that respect.

Lintz is pleasantly situated at the termination of this singular valley; and for the distance of a mile before the gates, a street of

neat cottages extends along its banks. After having passed the great military magazine and the barrier, we entered a very handsome and regularly-built square. A street equally well built branches from it, and the environs abound in neat villas *aménage rura*. It is the resort of many of the superior rank, who are invited thither by its pleasantness and convenience. Were I destined to pass the rest of my days in Germany, and had my choice of place, I would decidedly fix upon Lintz.

I reached Enns at 8 p. m.

April 11.

AUSTRIA.

	Posts.	English Miles.
Sternburg	-	—
Amstetten	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
Remelbach	1	—
Moelk	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
St. Pölten	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	65

Between Sternburg and Amstetten, we followed a succession of woody and cultivated slopes for many miles. As the beauties of nature were less engaging, we were much pleased by the appearance of the female peasants. Their short red jackets bound with gold-lace, and a cap entirely composed of that material (or sometimes of coloured velvet) projecting behind with a broad hem shading the face, which were particularly frequent in the neighbourhood of Lintz (where they are manufactured), gave them a very lively and theatrical air.

From the terminating promontory, a rich vale on either side is spread at its feet. That on the right hand is the superior in its composition; the ground gradually rising to extreme points, and clothed with broad surfaces of dark and umbrageous groves; and behind them in a continued parallel line, the Styrian Alps, streaked with snow, and so near as to be visible in every part:— the whole composing a vast assemblage of mountainous scenery.

On our approach to Moelk, we looked down on the Danube; wide, with uncovered sand-banks, and now appearing (like those numerous rivers which are tributary to it) rather as the mere bed of a torrent. A promontory of solid brown rock shoots as far as the banks, and commands the town, which is meanly built.

The whole platform, to the very brink, is occupied by the monastery of Benedictines, the largest and most sumptuous that had occurred in the course of our route; spreading an air of grandeur over the picture, from its magnitude, elevation, and structure. The architect was John Bernard Fischers, the German Palladio,

who contributed so greatly to the embellishment of the city of Vienna, under the patronage of the Emperor Joseph I. It consists of two courts, each with a front containing eighty windows; and these inclose the church, which has two spiral towers, a façade, and central cupola, resembling St. Paul's at London on a small scale. Fischer probably borrowed his first idea from Wren's plans then published, and accommodated them to this situation. At the entrance from the high grounds above the town, are bastions and fortifications; this being the only part undefended by nature. Ecclesiastics can hardly need such a security, except from the circumstance of its being likewise a palace, and the Emperor's occasional residence in his journeys.

I observed, as far as we had yet proceeded, the very great mutual resemblance, both in situation and form, of all conventional buildings. They are, with few exceptions, large whitened masses, with shapeless towers; adding nothing to the beauty of the landscape, though usually rising from an insulated mount or woody promontory. The ruins of those seen in England, or even the perfect convents (the colleges of Oxford and Cambridge), are infinitely more striking than these in Germany; which show no progressive epochs of architecture, but seem to be the produce of a few modern years. Perhaps, as an emblem of their present flourishing state, it may be the pride of the monks to keep all their buildings constantly renovated, and to conceal every feature of antiquity under thick coats of lime; or their total deficiency of taste may be the real reason.

Mr. Gilpin remarks, with his usual taste and judgment, that “in countries where popery prevails, the abbey is still intire and inhabited, and of course less adapted to landscape.” *Northern Tour*, v. i. p. 13.

At seven we arrived at St. Pölten, to which place, in 1741, the French and Bavarian armies had advanced, thus threatening Maria Theresa in her own capital.

April 12.

AUSTRIA.

Posts.		English Miles.		
Perschling	-	1	-	—
Sigardskirchen	-	1	-	—
Bürkersdorf	-	1	-	—
Vienna	-	1	-	40.

To Sigardskirchen we crossed an open plain, which gave distant views of several of the mansion-houses of the gentry. **HITINERARY.]**

therto the country had wanted this embellishment, which in England contributes so much to the rich effect of many landscapes. Passing through a grove, a shepherd-boy was playing on a pipe of simple form, made of the bark of a birch-tree, and resembling a clarinet in size, but longer : it produced wild but sweet notes. He was a very characteristic addition to the picture. Further on is the village of Abstetten, then recently reduced to ashes by lightning; but all the roofs were repaired by the feudal lord, prince Lichtenstein, whose ancient and massive château overlooks the village and his wide domain. One good consequence of feudal tenure is, that the chief is bound to make all such repairs as individuals are not able to do. This calamity happened but five weeks before, and a complete restoration has taken place.

The environs of Vienna exhibit many of the improvements usual about a splendid metropolis ; but there is an universal deficiency of shade; and the whole view is overpowered by a broad glare, from wide corn-fields and whitened houses, unrelieved by foliage of any kind. From this observation the imperial palace of Schöbrunn cannot be excepted. In our hasty survey of it, there appeared to be much grandeur and extent, and highly-ornamented gardens surrounding it. The suburbs of Vienna are detached from the city, which they exceed in every respect; and the intermediate space is covered with many noble houses, disposed in parades, and built of a bright freestone. Crossing the Boulevards we entered the city, and took possession of our apartments at an inn upon the largest scale.

Total of the journey from Ostend to Vienna.

Posts.	English Miles.	Furlongs.
89 <i>1</i> .	795,	- 4.

At Vienna from April 12 to the 20th, 1794.

This being the holy week, my attention was attracted to a procession of penitents round the area of the great church of St. Stephen. They were all men, habited in gowns of coarse brown canvas ; with hoods and masks of the same, having only small holes cut for the eyes and mouth. Some bore heavy crosses of wood, while others inflicted on their own naked shoulders the severest flagellation. Those who were least zealous, walked bare-foot only. I considered these devotees as Franciscans of the stricter order ; but was assured, that among them might be found many of the first rank in society, who sub-

mit to such a penance, as the only means of procuring absolution.

The cathedral of St. Stephen is a very magnificent edifice. It is one of the most superb specimens of the Gothic school of architecture on the continent, during the fourteenth century. The ground plan is very extensive, and has not been completed: for one of the great towers having been left unfinished, has been patched up, by the bad taste of a later age, with a heavy turret; the other is of a very singular form, and 465 feet in height. From the base to the point, it appears to be gradually spiral; and clustered with tiers of canopies, finials, and pedestals, to the very summit, in the greatest profusion. The base forms a grand portal. Nevertheless, the elevation has no effect of beauty; as the roofs are so disproportionately lofty, and rendered tawdry by being covered with coloured tiles, placed in capricious forms like a tessellated pavement. The attached chapels are numerous. On the side nearest the church, the tower is regular, with a division where the steeple rises; for the buttresses, being incorporated with the other building, produce an effect of infinite ornament, composed of small particles. The nave and choir share this extraordinary embellishment externally; but within are rendered dark and gloomy, by superfluity and by want of taste. Against the pillars of the nave are shrines of the most elaborate workmanship, with effigies as large as life; and they are most unsuitably crowded with altars of gilding and gaudy colours. The walls are literally lined with paintings; but I should not select more than two of them as meriting observation: these are the Crucifixion and the Sepulture of Christ. The whole interior but ill accords with the sobriety of the English eye, which is not easily reconciled to a total deficiency of simplicity and neatness. Selection of ornament has not, in any one instance of ecclesiastical architecture that I have seen in Germany, been thought worthy of the slightest attention: to accumulate, rather than to arrange, has been the object of those who have had the charge of structures dedicated to divine service.

Were it allowable to free this building of all its exuberances, and reduce it to the simplicity of a mere stone colour, St. Stephen's might vie with the superior English cathedrals; at least, it would become one of the most elegant examples of Gothic architecture on the continent.

I was present during the solemn mass on Easter Eve. The service of the "*Tenebrae*" was extremely pleasing, and the choir full and harmonious. In a gallery above the altar, inclosed with lattices, the empress attended. Cardinal Migazzi, who had just completed his eightieth year, officiated, dressed in his robes of

scarlet; a venerable old man, of a very dignified appearance. He was confessor to the late Empress Maria Theresa, whose bigotry influenced every action of her life; is supposed to have advised the ineffectual visit of Pius VI.; and was the strenuous opponent of the Emperor Joseph, in his resolution of suppressing the monasteries in Flanders. As the rival of Prince Kaunitz, his political history is well known. The cathedral of St. Stephen has been mentioned as the most perfect instance of German Gothic. Considered with that of Strasburg, the comparison between the towers is the more obvious; and it would be difficult to decide their claims. The Gothic style in France is specifically different, in as great a degree as that peculiar to England; St. Stephen's, therefore, cannot be more accurately compared with the cathedral of Rheims or of Rouen, than with those of York or of Lincoln.

The old city of Vienna is not equal in extent to most other European capitals. It is inclosed by ramparts; which are much elevated above the plain on which Vienna is situated, with a declivity only toward the Danube. The greater part of them is planted, and they may be walked round with ease in an hour. Some views of grandeur they certainly exhibit; but in general the city forms a mass of very lofty white buildings, relieved only by the cathedral. Looking towards the suburbs, however, there is a variety of superb objects. The city abounds in narrow streets, without a pavement for foot-passengers: hence walking is inconvenient and dangerous, for the equipages of persons of quality are purposely driven as close to the houses as possible, and the affrighted stranger is often forced to take refuge in the shops. This was formerly the case likewise at Paris. I remarked the cleanliness of the streets; and saw several companies of convicts in chains, employed as scavengers. As the police at Vienna is not less impartial than active, I was assured that there were several persons of noble families under that condemnation, for different crimes, for a certain term of years.

In this city are two houses said to be the largest in Europe; the rent of one of which is 300*l. per annum*, and the other is computed to contain six hundred inhabitants: but in fact they consist of many public staircases, are divided into irregular courts, and appear rather a cluster of houses than a single house.

The Imperial Palace is built on several acres of ground, without plan or regularity, having been executed at various times. Externally it has not the slightest pretension to architectural beauty; but, like our St. James's, the state apartments are well

adapted to the purposes of ceremony. Many of the others are indeed very capriciously contrived. A suite of low rooms is appropriated as the imperial museum, of which (at least, that existing in her time) Lady M. Wortley Montague does not speak with much respect. (Letter XIV.) But the latter emperors, possessing more leisure, and better inclination, for science, have encouraged learned men, whose researches have amply repaid their munificence.—The cabinets of mineralogy and shells were shown to us by the Abbé Stiltz, with great politeness and attention. Four spacious rooms are surrounded by cases: and the specimens are very favourably disposed by their being placed on brackets of white porcelain richly gilt, and thus perfectly scen. The most curious and rare fossils are said to be an opal of sixteen ounces, valued at 2000*l.*; an elastic stone, eighteen inches by fourteen, of the ore called “*aurum graphicum*,” containing in a hundred thirty-six parts of pure gold; and a piece of crystal from Madagascar, a yard in length, and eighteen in circumference. Besides the first collection now existing of crystals, agates, ores, and gems, may be remarked an equal number of artificial curiosities: the chief of which are a bouquet of flowers composed of every kind of jewel, presented by Maria Theresa to Joseph II. on his marriage; and a slab of lapis, inlaid with a border composed of flowers and shells, in Florentine *seagliola* or mosaic, which rival colouring in correctness and brilliancy. Of these rarities very correct catalogues have been published.

Baron Van Swieten, the son of the celebrated physician and medical commentator, shewed us the Imperial Library. The style of the room is perhaps too ornamental and superb for its purpose. In the centre is a painted dome, supported by *seagliola* columus, with an ample area; and the whole effect is that of an Italian church. Bernard Fischers, the German Palladio, was the architect; whose skill is principally admirable in breaking the extreme length, by another colonnade in the middle of the room, which extends from the centre. In point of architectural merit, it may be ranked with the Radcliffe Library at Oxford; and even its faults are all of the same kind.

The collection of books is universal and sumptuous. Smaller rooms are appropriated to manuscripts, and the curiosities of literature. There is a manuscript Dioscorides, with coloured drawings of plants, written in the fifth century, and brought from Constantinople by the celebrated Busbequius, who was the ambassador of Charles V. to the Porte; and who sent likewise a Pliny's Natural History, and the itinerary of a Roman general,

of contemporary date. Of these he gives the following account:

"Sunt, credo, libri haud multo infra 240, quos Cæsariæ bibliothecæ destinavi. Sunt aliquot non contemnendi. Unum reliqui Constantinopoli decrepitæ vetustatis, totum descriptum literâ majusculâ, Dioscoridem cum depictis plantarum figuris; in quo sunt paucula, ni fallor, Cratævæ, et Libellus de Avibus. Ego emptum cupisissem, sed me deterruit pretium. Nam 100 ducatis indicabatur; summa Cæsaris, non mei, marsupii. Ego instare non desinam, donec Casarem impulero ut tam præclarum auctorem ex illâ servitute redimat. Est vetustatis injuriâ pesime habitus; ita intrinsecus a vermisborum corrosus, ut in viâ reperatum vix aliquis curet tollere." *Busbequius, Epistol. IV.* p. 391.

The origin and progress of the typographic art, in a complete series, occupy many shelves. Among others, I remarked a Psalter by Faust, the inventor of printing, upon vellum, scarcely to be distinguished from manuscript; all Caxton's works; a French translation of Boccace; and the romance of Lancelot du Lac, in three volumes folio, with exquisitely beautiful illuminations. Many folio missals are worthy notice upon this latter account. This series of the specimens of printing is continued from the invention of the art to the close of the sixteenth century. A collection of engraved portraits of eminent persons, in many volumes, readily caught my eye; thirteen of the subjects are English. I had not an opportunity of examining their pretensions, in point of comparison, with those of Sir W. Musgrave and the Marquis of Bute.

The coins and medals, which are rare and excellent, I did not see. The facility of admission to this library, and its superior accommodations, must render Vienna an eligible residence for men of literary pursuits; as it is open to all, without introduction or fee. This most liberal plan is likewise adopted at Rome and Paris; and is well worthy of imitation in the great libraries in England, the difficulty of access to which has deprived them of much of their utility.

Having heard so many anecdotes of Prince Kaunitz, who had now been Imperial minister of state for forty years, I availed myself of an opportunity of seeing him in his riding-school, taking his daily exercise. Although nearly fourscore years old, he sat his horse perpendicularly, and as if he could not stoop, I never saw a countenance or figure marked by so much pride: Wolsey himself could not have had more. Kaunitz is certainly superior to that minister in talents and in power. Wolsey retained an influence over a prince, at that time, indolent and luxurious;

but this statesman has absolutely governed three sovereigns, very opposite in character, but all active, and retains the helm even under a fourth. Scarcely a traveller has visited Vienna without some anecdote of Prince Kaunitz, confirming the unbounded superciliousness which he displays in the common occurrences of life.

When the Empress Maria Theresa gave him an audience in a room with the windows closed, he never failed to open them before he entered on business. He received the queen of Naples in bed, and told her that she staid too long. When the princes of the Empire dined with him, he pretended that he did not remember their titles, and purposely miscalled them. When the dessert came on the table, the apparatus for cleaning his teeth appeared likewise; and he performed the offices of the toilet without noticing his guests, even if they were of the highest rank.

I too must tell a story of him, which has not yet been in print:—As he had opposed to the utmost the pontifical visit of Pius VI. to the Emperor Joseph II., he determined that the court of Vienna should not receive the former as pope, and that in conversation he should only be styled, like any other clergyman, *signor Abbate*. Pius (then not humbled by misfortune) was infinitely mortified, and resolved on some retaliation. Having been informed that Kaunitz never advanced further than the first step of his great stair-case when a visitor of rank took leave, that he had a collection of bad paintings which he valued highly, and that he could not hear of death with composure, he availed himself of all these circumstances at once. On the morning fixed for his departure towards Rome, he sent to Prince Kaunitz, requesting leave to see his collection, which was most readily granted. After the most fulsome compliments on his taste in *vertù*, the pope artfully protracted the conversation, till the haughty prince found himself encircled by courtiers at the bottom of the stairs; when the pope turned short, and said, in a loud and sarcastic tone, “But your highness should recollect, that these fine things are of little consequence to us old men, who have each of us a foot in the grave.” No embarrassment could exceed that of Kaunitz on this occasion; which was not a little increased by the certainty of this affair being spread through every society in Vienna.

Prince Kaunitz died towards the end of 1794; and it is believed that his death was hastened by regret at his son's being found connected with others of the nobility who were impeached on account of their Jacobin principles, and as favourers of the French cause.

The armoury was pointed out to us as worth seeing. It con-

tains many thousand stand of arms, but is much inferior to that in the Tower of London. I could not contemplate these instruments of destruction with the least pleasure : but my attention was engrossed by a figure bearing the complete armour of Charles V., and that worn at a tournament ; and this exercise was represented by many others of the combatants' horses and attendants, which, for the time, filled my mind with Romantic imagery, and gave reality to the pages of chivalry and romance.

The Turks were the natural enemies of Vienna. It was besieged by Solyman I. in 1529, and by Mohammed IV. in 1683 ; but as they are no longer formidable, it has been in contemplation to dismantle the fortifications. The suburbs are much more extensive than the city : particularly the New Town (called, in honour of the late Emperor, Leopoldstadt) ; in which the parades and squares, being built of bright freestone, and with great uniformity, very nearly resemble those of Bath. The grand promenade called the Prater, is on a similar plan to St. James's Park, and the gardens of the Thuilleries. It was given to the public by Joseph II. ; and is a delightful appendage to a large city, the total population of which is estimated at 250,000.

We had no opportunity of seeing Prince Lichtenstein's pictures, which form one of the most famous private collections in Germany.

Of the public architecture of Vienna, almost every specimen is due to John Bernard Fischers ; who died in 1724, and had enjoyed the imperial patronage with uninterrupted success. Besides the library above-mentioned, I visited the following of his most celebrated works, upon each of which I shall give the observations which occurred on the spot.

I first went to the palace of Schönbrunn, about three miles from Vienna, which he designed as a hunting-seat for the imperial court in 1696. There are three stories, with thirty-five windows in each, in the centre of extensive wings ; and a portico of the Ionic order, before which are placed two grand water-jets, fifty-four feet in diameter. The invention of the whole wants simplicity : the external decorations being void of taste ; and the distribution within ill applied, and not containing rooms equal either in point of commodiousness or number to what the outside promises. In 1699, on the nuptials of the Emperor Joseph I., the foreign merchants resident in Vienna made a triumphal arch, which is a master-piece of extravagance. Without detail, it may be said to be a more capricious and unscientific performance than any scholar of Barromui would have owned.

Having been introduced by our fellow-traveller, Dr. J. Sibthorp, to the Jacquins (father and son), so justly celebrated over Europe for their botanical science, we had an opportunity of accurately investigating the Imperial collection of rural plants and exotics, and were favoured with much of their very interesting and instructive conversation; from which I recollect the following particulars:

The botanical garden at Schönbrunn owes its institution to the emperor Francis I.; and was first made in 1753, under the direction of the famous Van Swieten. That sovereign sent the elder Jacquin to America in 1754, on a botanical expedition, which he did not complete till 1759; during which period he sent home no less than seven large collections of the most rare plants; the greater part of which fortunately arrived at Vienna. When Francis died, in 1765, the empress Maria Theresa ordered that the garden should be continued with equal care and expence. Her son, Joseph II., authorised Jacquin and Von Born, to propose literary men well qualified for a voyage to extend the classes; and this little society left Vienna before the end of 1785. The exotics were occasionally increased during this reign; but by no botanist more than by the younger Jacquin; who has travelled, in pursuit of the science he so successfully professes, over the greater part of Europe. The hot-houses were enlarged by Joseph II. The emperor Leopold, who is justly praised for his love and patronage of the arts, dispatched another mission of botanic research, the purpose of which was frustrated by various unforeseen events. After his death, the present monarch erected a new hot-house, destined to receive plants from the Cape of Good Hope only, which is 235 feet in length; and a distinct garden has been laid out, in which all plants which are natives of the Austrian dominions are cultivated with skill and care. Under such powerful and continued patronage, the gardens of Schönbrunn have acquired the fame which they are allowed to possess, of being the first in Europe.

In the suburb of Leopoldstadt I pursued my examination of the works of Fischer. There is a column upon the idea, rather than in imitation, of those of Trajan and Autoine at Rome, which was one of his later works. The elevation is bold; but the sculptures, which are meant to immortalize Charles VI., are below criticism in point of execution. The church of St. Charles Borromeo was built in 1706 by that emperor, in consequence of a vow; a kind of motive to which ecclesiastical architecture is very much indebted. Fischer gave the design. The ground plan is a Greek cross of equal length, with a central cupola; and the portico is a Corinthian exastyle, with a very weighty architrave. Pil-

lars, pilastres, and statues, are superabundant; and destroy all magnificence; which is never to be produced independant of simplicity. The cupola, with its accompaniments, is a complication of false concord in architecture.

But the Royal Mews, which he completed, have simplicity, variety, and magnificence. They contain a stable for six hundred horses, with an amphitheatre and riding-school.

He constructed likewise a palace called Belvidere, for prince Eugene. Its style has little beauty; and the general effect is spoiled by the ill appearance of the windows. The suite of apartments now contain the grand imperial collection of pictures, which is magnificent rather than select. The collection made at Vienna by Charles IV.; that of Prague, taken there in 1657; that of Stahlbourg, in 1728; and all these, joined with Prince Eugene's, comprise nearly thirteen hundred pictures. Passing over many of mediocrity, I counted no less than five by M. Agnolo; forty-nine by Titian; forty-five by Rubens; twenty-six by Van-dyck; and nineteen by Teniers; which are unrivalled, and certainly the finest in the world. As this sumptuous exhibition is daily open to the public at stated hours, I visited the Belvidere as often as I had an opportunity, and as often returned delighted with the facility with which such a gratification could be procured.

All the buildings I have mentioned were not finished by B. Fischers, but also his son Emanuel Fischers according to his plans. The latter indeed was more eminently serviceable to society than his father, by his hydraulic inventions for the mines of Kremnitz, and Schemnitz, in Hungary.

The national architecture of Germany undoubtedly owes much to Fischers; before whose day the attempts at classical building were rude in the extreme. It was as little known in Germany, as in England before Inigo Jones: yet, in comparing these artists, we must remember that Jones introduced and left us models, which were drawn from the purest Italian sources, and continue imimitable by his successors; while Fischers copied from Borromini; and it will be well for the modern architects of Austria, if they avoid his faults, and study only his excellences.

During our short stay at Vienna, I was more engaged by things than men. The society here is said to be particularly good; the claims and degrees of nobility are most ceremoniously observed, and we were assured that Vienna was become what Paris was before the revolution.

Most of the houses which I saw, consist (for one family) of the first floor, with rooms opening to each other, and both lofty and spacious. In general, the furniture was gaudy, with much gilding

and silk hangings. The Austrians are very partial to whole-length portraits of their emperors, which I observed frequently. Every room is furnished, in one corner of it, with a *stove* reaching to the ceiling, and ornamented with porcelain tiles: an Englishman, however, naturally looks for a *fire-place*, and is apt to consider a room comfortless without it. This custom of stoves originates in economy, from the scarcity of fuel; and I had to contend with Mr. Jacquin, who had been in England, and who argued for its superior neatness, and more agreeable heat, though from an invisible fire.

Throughout Germany, the women of better fashion seemed to imitate the French or English, both in dress and in the mode of wearing the hair; except that they appeared in the streets without hats.

On the 20th of April, we bade adieu to Vienna at day-break. We had now to encounter a journey, the delays, the fatigue, and the danger of which, we did not anticipate.

From Vienna to Constantinople.

The route generally taken is that from Vienna to Belgrade, and thence to Constantinople; as being at least two hundred miles nearer than that which the state of the Turkish provinces and other circumstances obliged us to prefer. I have seen a statement of the route taken by the French ambassador in 1720, and subjoin it as an elucidation.

		Leagues.
Fischament	-	4
Teutsch Altenburg	-	3
Joerhendorf	-	3
Wiselburg	-	3
Hogsträs	-	3
Raab	-	2
Gonyo	-	2
Comom	-	4
Nesmühl	-	2
Neudorf	-	2
Dorock	-	2
Vareswar	-	3
Buda, Offen	-	3
Hensbeck	-	3
Ertchin	-	2
Adön	-	2
Pantely	-	2
Födwar	-	3
Pax	-	4

Brought over	-	-	52
Tolna	-	-	4
Sexard	-	-	2
Patasac	-	-	3
Sotscho	-	-	2
Mohäos	-	-	2
Baranyvár	-	-	4
Estièck	-	-	4
Vuckovár	-	-	4
Novasella	-	-	2
Patsch	-	-	2
Karagatsch	-	-	3
Gloschan	-	-	3
Peterwaradein	-	-	4
Petsch	-	-	4
Pancsora	-	-	4
Belgrade	-	-	4
			—
			103
			—

From Belgrade to Constantinople.

		Leagues.
Zweybrüggen	-	2
Krozka	-	2
Golär	-	3
Hassan Pasha Balátsha	-	4
Patazina	-	4
Jagodna	-	3
Razena	-	3
Alexinza	-	3
Nissa	-	3
Mustafa Pasha Balátsha	-	4
Scharkei	-	3
Pastbrod	-	4
Chalkali	-	4
Sophia	-	3
El-ecclisa	-	4
Kapi-dervend	-	5
Tartarwarsig	-	4
Philippopolis	-	6
Gergali	-	4
Mustafa Pasha Kupri	-	4
Hadrianople	-	3
		—

Brought over	-	-	75
Hafpza	-	-	3
Eskibaba	-	-	4
Burgàz	-	-	3
Tchiorlu	-	-	3
Bardos	-	-	4
Lelivrèa	-	-	3
Buyuck Checkmedjeh			3
Kuchuck Checkmedjeh			3
Constantinople	-	-	2
			—
		103	
		—	
	103		
	—		
	206		

If this calculation be made in *French leagues* it is not equal to two-thirds of the real distance: if in *German*, it will be as much more. This route cannot be accurately reckoned at less than 850 English miles.

		AUSTRIA.
	Posts.	English Miles.
2 Teutsch Altenburg	2	—
Nainburg Fischament	2	—
Kitsee,—opposite Presburg	1	—
		—
		HUNGARY.
Raggendorff (Jochrendorff)	1	—
Wiselburg	1	—
Hogstras	$1\frac{1}{2}$	—
Raab	1	65

From the ramparts of Vienna, to Teutsch in Altenburg, the road is broad and level. In passing a Turkish intrenchment thrown up during the siege of Vienna, we observed the church, in which the styles of very distant eras are to be discerned;—the earliest imitation of the Roman, and the neat Gothic of the fifteenth century, with buttresses ornamented by canopies and fenials. This circumstance encouraged a conjecture that it had been once a Roman temple, the ruins of which had been converted into a church. The prospect from this elevated spot, in the distance toward

Vieuna, is such as Loraine and Poussin frequently painted; the great features of it form a side-screen of wooded mountains, stretching to a sharp promontory, which is crested by a castle of Nainburg, now a ruin of great dignity and extent.

It is connected with the town by the wall that encircles it, and completes the fortification. The more favourable points of view are,—the very distant one; and that just beyond the town, where the central tower rises pyramidal, and the great length of wall is foreshortened. At the base is a handsome modern house; and the mount, which is finely invested with wood, has been laid out in walks, and ornamented with several small buildings in a good taste. Passing on, we came to a castellated house belonging to prince Esterhazy, who had lately lent it to count Polignac and a party of French emigrant nobility. To our right extended for a small space some pretty woodlands, with a wavy surface of foliage of a picturesque effect.

We entered Hungary at Kitsee, which besides merited our attention as being a village entirely inhabited by Jews. It is much to the credit of prince Esterhazy that he has entrusted them with the agriculture of his vast estates in this district. As it was the feast of the Passover, we saw many of their women very finely dressed, with a profusion of gold-lace. Whether it be from the natural indolence or inability of the Hungarians, or that the country is depopulated for the supply of the army, the Jews, in fact, are the only farmers. Between Ruggendorff and Wiselburg, upon the left, is a bold ridge of mountains; with a large town at the extremity, and a considerable castle in ruins, covering a broad point of rock, and engrafted in it. The face of the country now spreads into plains, covered with herds of cattle, and rarely a few cottages together. These last consist of one story, and are very long; they are built of mud-walls and thatch, but are neatly whitened, and have one end always towards the road.—There is a patriarchal simplicity in the dress and appearance of the people. The countrymen are universally clad in a surtout of untanned sheep-skin, with the wool on the outside; a goat-skin hanging behind, like a hood, from the shoulders; linen trowsers, large boots, and a broad round hat. The women and girls have, in general, coarse dark features; they wear a tight cloth jacket, a very short petticoat, and disdain the use of shoes and stockings. Few of them, however poor, are seen without a small cross of gold, or a piece of coin, suspended in their bosoms, which they consider as sacred and unalienable.

At 8 p.m. we arrived at Raab; a town standing on a considerable space of ground, as the streets are wide, and the houses detached. The churches are neat; and of modern architecture, having been erected during the reign of Maria Theresa. They rise with more

than ordinary elevation above the low roofs; and, from the flatness around, are visible at a great distance.

April 21st, left Raab at 6 a. m.

HUNGARY.

		Posts.	Eng. Miles,
Gonyo	- - -	1	—
Acs	- - -	1	—
Comorne (Komora)	- - -	1	—
Nezzmelij	- - -	1	—
Neudorf	- - -	1	—
Dorogh	- - -	1	—
Varsovar	- - -	1	—
Buda, or Offen and Pesth	1½	-	80.

We proceeded on the banks of the Danube: which river, dividing its waters, forms many islands covered with willows; some of the more spacious of which are inhabited and contain many acres: yet the arms are each like a considerable river; and, when collected at Comorne, spread into one wide reach, or broad sheet of lake. The Danube, indeed, is not only beautiful, but there is no river in Europe which affords more advantages to the countries through which it takes its course. In the middle of the streams are placed many corn-mills of a curious construction, differing in some measure from those I saw on it near Ratisben; which latter are built upon the boats (with a very large wheel between them) anchored, but floating upon any sudden swell of the river.—At Comorne there is a confluence of the rivers Waag and Danube. In 1783, this town was nearly destroyed by an earthquake, and it is not yet restored from that dreadful calamity.

Leaving the banks of the Danube much to the left, we found ourselves on the wide plains of Hungary, which though celebrated for fertility in other seasons, now only presented thin herbage,—or undulated sand, spreading, like the ocean, without boundary, or objects for the eye to repose on.

At Nezzmelij we were gratified by a favourable specimen of an Hungarian cottage. We held a short conversation with the post-master, in Latin; who proved more satisfactorily than we had surmised, his acquaintance with that language. Speaking of his wine, which was indeed very strong, he observed, “ Melius est cum aquâ; quia purum ascendit sursum, et deturbat.”

Some miles farther, at Varsovar, we overtook a procession, composed of the inhabitants of the village, of both sexes and all ages, in number about two hundred. Three boys bearing a crucifix and the banner with the portrait of the patron saint, led the procession; which was divided into ranks, the children walking

first, and then the men and women on each side. They all joined in a hymn or service, which the parish-clerk walked in the centre to regulate. The priest met them at the church; where the whole intention was to pray for rain after a drought of six weeks. There was something very solemn and pleasing in this ceremony; and the extreme simplicity of manners apparent in these villagers, almost reconciled us to the fantastic execution of their design. All universal neatness was observable in their dress. The men wore jackets of brown cloth, full-trimmed with blue silk tassels; long breeches or pantaloons; and very broad shallow hats, such as are seen in the pictures of Vandyck or Palamedes. The Women had short petticoats; half-boots of red leather; and their hair, unusually plaited, hanging down the back, and tied with a bunch of ribbands at the end. The scene was characteristic of the people, who evinced an unaffected deportment rarely seen in countries where refinement of manners has made a more decided progress.—As we drew nearer to Buda, images of pastoral life with appropriate scenery recurred with pleasing effect. Among the herds of oxen, goats, and sheep, we observed the buffalo, for the first time. This animal which we found as we advanced on our journey, much more in use than any other, for agricultural purposes as well as for draught, has a very ferocious aspect, and an equally uncouth form. Its eyes glare; and sharp angular parts, which are so ugly in the cow, are more conspicuous in the buffalo. Yet it is a patient and tractable creature, with all its terrific appearance. The frequent groupes of cattle lowing and lingering in their way to the village-fields, with the grotesque-looking peasants driving them; the glow of the evening sky; and the still and mild air; were objects which disposed the mind to serenity not often felt;—a serenity which poets fancy, and philosophers aspire to without success.

We were soon afterward in sight of Buda; covering very widely the bases of surrounding hills half-way to their summits, and distinguished by many large buildings, and the delapidated towers of its ancient walls.

Before the evening closed, we crossed the Danube upon the platform of planks laid on boats; which extend more than three hundred yards, about the length of Westminster-bridge. We took up our residence at a large inn at Pesth; a city of nearly equal size with the former, on the opposite bank of the river. These cities were denominated by the Romans Acinium and Contra-Acinium. Buda was anciently the residence of the Hungarian kings, and their metropolis; till Sigismund became emperor of Germany, in 1410. When the Turks were firmly established at Constantinople, they became more ambitious of extending their dominion in Europe. Their tumultuous armies soon forced the frontiers of

Hungary, and laid siege to the capital itself; which was first taken in 1525, by Solyman I.; when the king (Lewis II.) was drowned fighting valiantly for his country. But the power of the Ottoman sovereigns was not fully established before 1541; when they constituted a pashalik or province consisting of all Upper Hungary, the country between the Theisse and Danube, Lower Hungary, from Strigone to Klisskaniza, the eastern part of Sclavonia, and the greater part of Servia. This ill-fated city was the scene of contention between the Imperialists and Turks for many successive years. The military annals of no country can furnish a more memorable siege than that in 1684, when Buda was taken by assault from the usurpers. This siege lasted from the 14th of July to the 1st of November in that year; when the Imperialists raised the siege, after having lost twenty thousand men: but by incredible efforts of valour, the Turks regained their garrison at Pesth, on the opposite side of the river.

The second siege, of equal celebrity, was under prince Eugene: and continued from July 3, to September 2, 1686; when Buda was finally taken, and was confirmed to the emperor Leopold I. by the treaty of Carlowitz, in 1699. Of thirteen thousand Turks, two thousand only remained to be taken prisoners; and Haly Pasha, the governor, and several of their chiefs, died desperately in the breach, having refused quarter from the Germans.

The places conquered or colonized by the Turks, universally bore the marks of their peculiar customs, particularly of their architecture. The cupolas of their mosques, with slender perforated columns called minarets, soon distinguished the outlines of the view, in the distant prospects. Many of these were doubtless destroyed at the last siege, by the German artillery: others, which still remain, have been appropriated to Christian worship; and were given to the Greek merchants, who have a large settlement at Pesth, where they conduct the Levant trade to Germany and the Northern nations.

The warm-baths at Buda have been long famous. They are strongly impregnated with sulphur and mineral, and esteemed specific in many cases; but I could not learn their exact analysis. By the Turks they were considered as the most valuable luxuries which they found there, and several remains of baths built in their manner are still to be traced. They were usually large circular rooms; with cupolas very thickly perforated, and studded over with small hemispherical glasses: and of such dimensions as to admit a crowd of bathers at the same time; particularly of women, who never frequented them singly.

Since the perfect re-establishment of the Austrian government Buda has acquired much of the appearance of the old part of

Vienna, notwithstanding many features of Turkish architecture. At Pesth, which is principally occupied by merchants of several nations, there is more of the modern style, and of resemblance to other great towns. Our stay was extremely contracted; as we resumed our journey the next morning, leaving the course of the Danube on our right hand.

We found, however, time to taste imperial Tokay, for which Buda is famous:—but it was at a tavern; and the best, like Hock in Germany, is found only in the cellars of the nobles and priests.

April 22.

HUNGARY.

	Posts.	Eng. Miles.
Soroksa	-	—
Ocsa	-	—
Inacks	-	—
Oérkeny	-	—
Foldeac	-	—
Ketskemeth	-	60.

Soon after our departure from Buda, the same level ground continued, with few objects to beguile our way. Some spots of corn, indeed: but no other vegetation; no trees but in the extreme distance, bounding the horizon like land seen at sea.

Triste solum; sterilis, sine fruge, sine arbore, tellus.

OVID. MET. viii. 790.

We seemed, as we advanced, to be always in the centre of a circle, of which we were unable to conjecture the diameter. From such vacant and tiresome views, we hoped, in vain, that many posts would relieve us; but the roads were uninterrupted, and excellent. We were now in the heart of Hungary; between the Danube and the Theisse, the Pannonia of the Romans.

A single natural curiosity afforded some amusement. It was the jumping mouse (called by Linnaeus and Hasselquist *mus aculus*), which is seen in great numbers in these deserts. This animal does not exceed the size of a large common mouse: it supports itself only on its hind legs, which are much longer than the others; and is therefore forced to hop or jump in its progressive motion. When it rests, it closes its fore-feet to its belly, and sits upon its knees. Though not much alarmed by our approach, yet, from the fleetness of their motion, they would be very difficult to take alive. In most respects they are the miniature of the kangaroo, an animal but lately brought into Europe.—Our ingenious fellow traveller Dr. S. was much occupied in catching a great variety of insects peculiar to this country, and fastening them with pins to his hat;

which, at the end of our day's journey, was thus decorated with the most brilliant colours.

We arrived at Ketskemeth early in the evening, and were accommodated in a spacious inn. This large village consists of whitened houses with roofs of reeds. In our principal room, the younger inhabitants were celebrating their Easter; and dancing to wild music; but the most lively and best adapted I ever heard. A dulcimer played by a lad of fifteen years, two guitars, and a violoncello, made up the concert: the strain of which was extremely simple; and little varied except in measure as the figure of the dance required. Three couple only danced at once. The men wore jackets full trimmed with guimp and lamb's wool, and a profusion of small brass buttons; with long breeches, boots, and spurs, which they clinked in time to the dance. The girls wore stockings embroidered with worsted of different colours, and had their long hair braided with ribbands. They commenced very slowly: but as the music changed, they grew more animated; and the dance concluded by each man's placing his hands on the waist of his partner, who likewise held him by his shoulders, and in this position they reeled with such velocity that they fell giddy to the ground. This dance, peculiar to the Hungarians, is called "the wolsch;" and within these few last years has been much in fashion in Germany as well as in England, where it is called the waltz. These rustics were under very little restraint in their enjoyment; and as more might be collected respecting the manners of the people from this scene, than from any that had hitherto occurred, I was glad to have been present at a village festival in Hungary.

April 23.

HUNGARY.

		Posts.	Eng. Miles.
Paka	-	-	1
Felegy-haza	-	-	1
Petary	-	-	1
Kistelek	-	-	1
Szat-macz	-	-	1
Szegedin	-	1	60

The hilarity of these merry villagers, who were drinking the strong wine of the country all night, made us the more willingly pursue our route even before sun-rise. As we quitted Ketskemeth, and the few corn-fields and pastures contiguous to it, we found ourselves on the wide sandy plain.—The post-house at Petery exhibited a true picture of the extreme penury of the Hungarian peasant. It is a subterranean cottage, or rather hovel. The keeper of the post had no shirt, but an untanned surtout of sheep-skin: his countenance was thick-covered with dirt; and his

hair was profusely anointed with hog's-lard, which unsightly custom is as general as it is offensive. But this unfortunate people are liable to one of the most dreadful diseases with which the human race can possibly be afflicted: and the ointment is used either as a preventative or remedy for the *plica polonica*. In that complaint every single hair is swelled to the size of a quill; and the pain, inflammation, and foetid odour, are equally excessive. The poor man's wife had a kirtle and shift only, without shoes or stockings; and his children were bare of clothing. The natives of Hudson's Bay can scarcely be more squalid and savage in their appearance; but there was no harshness or brutality in the manners of these peasants. As our equipage required many horses, we were detained at this miserable hut while several men were driving all that were grazing on the plain into a pen, that we might take our choice of them. These animals were as lean and lazy as the inhabitants. They were tied together three and four abreast to the carriages, with rope harness which we had provided at Buda.

After a slow progress we reached Szegedin (Singidava Daciæ); once a city of antiquity, and inhabited by Roman colonists. A principal event of its modern history is, that it was taken by the Imperialists from the Turks in 1686, and completed their possession of Hungary.—At Szegedin, is the junction of the Theisse and the Marocz.

April 24.

HUNGARY.

	Posts.	Eng. Miles.
Horgaz	1	—
Kleinkaniza	1	—
Mockrin	1	—
Komlos	1	—
Ozadat	1	—
Kleinbeskerth	2	65

At Kleinkaniza we found an end to this immense plain, the full length of which, in a right line, without interruption, exceeds a hundred and eighty miles. We now crossed the river Theisse or Tibiscus, which, rising in the Carpathian mountains, becomes here both wide and rapid. We were ferried over on a float; a mode of navigation always attended with considerable danger.

Our road to Kleinbeskerth, where we rested, led through morasses covered with tall reeds, or plains as barren as before. Villages, or rather collections of huts, were more frequent; but all around them was naked and bare. In several of them we remarked the acacia, which is merely a shrub in England, here a large unbrageous tree; and the chimnies of the low cottages usually bore the nests of storks, which are undisturbed and revered as objects almost of religious regard.

April 25.

Banát of Temeswar.

		Posts.	Eng. Miles.
Temeswar	- -	1	- —
Rekas	- -	1	- —
Kesseto	- -	1	- —
Lugos	- -	1	- 50

During a progress of two hundred miles, we observed no castle or baronial seat; in fact, no residence superior to that of the farmer or peasant is to be seen. This is certainly the most uncultivated tract in Hungary; and as the great possessors of lands give no encouragement to agriculture by their influence or example, neither the people nor the country have much chance of bettering their present condition. We entered the province called the banát of Temeswar; which was a Turkish pashalik, and was retained by that people for three years after they had been driven out of Hungary. This district, which had been laid waste by all the horrors of war, having been colonised by the Austrians in 1739, it was their policy to encourage the emigration of their German subjects by large grants of land; so that no vestiges of Turkish population remain, and the present owners retain the customs and language of their immediate ancestors, little mixed with the Hungarians.—There is also a greater appearance of civilization and agriculture; and from many circumstances we could imagine ourselves into some of the German provinces, beyond the desolated region we had passed with so little worthy of attention or interest.

We halted for a few hours at Temeswar, the capital of the banát: originally, when in possession of the Turks, so strong a town as to resist the attacks of the Imperialists, who invested it for three years in succession without effect; but it was at length taken in 1696 by the elector of Saxony.

It was then miserably built on the Turkish plan; with covered markets, under long cloisters, called bazarre. When ceded to the Germans, it was totally new modelled; and fortified to a great extent, upon modern principles, with double bastions and ditches. Except a convent and a church, the whole town is a fortress, and the streets little more than a range of low barracks. It is hardly possible to describe the shape of the steeple, like most of these erected by the Germans in Hungary: it has a globe coyered with lead, bulging out in the middle of a tall spire. And the artificially stagnated waters have added so much to the unwholesomeness of the country, that Temeswar is now become proverbial for an endemic malady.

As we proceeded, the face of the country is more pleasing (by comparison only); with small tufts of trees, and more uneven ground,

We slept at Lugos, a very large village, after having enjoyed the best supper the place afforded. The common diet of the country is black bread, very moist and sour, with which the post-horses are likewise fed. We were favoured with white manchets, which would have been very good but for the sand which is mixed with the fleur in grinding the wheat. No less than eight chickens not a month old, were brought in one dish. The wine was dry and strong, and of the flavour which distinguishes that made on the banks of the Rhine.—At Temeswar we were met by a courier, who informed us, that the usual routes by Semlin or Belgrade were rendered extremely dangerous, on account of the plague then raging; and the armed banditti then in a state of rebellion against the Porte, ravaging the country, and plundering all travellers who fell in their way. From these considerations, the ambassador resolved on a more extended course, through Transylvania and Wallachia. We were however, amply recompensed for this long deviation, by seeing some very romantic and interesting countries, and of superior beauty to the Turkish provinces of Servia and Bulgaria.

April 26.

TRANSYLVANIA.

	Posts.	English Miles.
Boxsär	2	1½
Faesett	-	1
Kowsoon	-	1
Crôzed	-	1
Dobrâh	-	1
		50.

After quitting this rude collection of Huts, we began to ascend the mountainous tract of Transylvania, beautifully wooded, and cultivated in small patches with maize or Turkish corn. The same objects were continued with no observable variety, to Dobrâh, another village, where we rested for the night. The roads were particularly rough on the frequent hills, where they were deeply worn by torrents of rain.—We were detained at the post-house at Kowsoon, and were greatly amused by a dance of Transylvanian villagers. The girls paid their compliments to us by kissing our hands, and then applying them to their foreheads with great respect. We distributed some small silver coin among them; which they received with raptures, thanking us aloud in the Illyric language.

April 27.

TRANSYLVANIA.

	Posts.	English Miles.
Leshèk	-	1
Devâh	-	1
Szazvâros	-	1½
Sibott	-	1
Müllenback	-	1
		50

The sun seldom surprised us in our beds;—we were, in general, sufficiently induced to quit the accommodations of the night, and to enjoy the fresh air, as the heat of mid-day was oppressive. A few miles brought us to the shores of the Marocz; which then flowed in a considerable stream through wide sand-banks, which it occupies when the rain descends from the mountains. A grand screen of acclivities, shrouded with dwarf wood stretched to our left. It is divided into numberless points, shelving to their bases with singular regularity; and producing pyramids of almost conical exactness, which rise behind each other in the thickest of the groupes.

These mountains, which are of stupendous height, are completely covered with wood; a peculiarity not only pleasing from its novelty, but giving them an inconceivable richness even in the most distant view. On the summit of one of these we observed the castle of Devâh; of a greater elevation than any I ever saw in any country, and rifted in a promontory of a peninsular shape connected with higher summits, which, being thrown back, in this point of view, detract nothing from its sublimity. The castle, from its magnitude and rude construction, appears to be of an antiquity even prior to the establishment of the Roman colony by the emperor Trajan. What now remains of it is a vast oblong tower, which was the citadel, flanked by an embattled wall, which is doubled on the side undefended by an abrupt cliff. The town of Devâh, which was anciently commanded by it, extends at its feet. From the inn, where we halted to breakfast, the rock rises several hundred yards; and the sudden elevation of this fortress excites the greatest surprise. I consider it as a more striking object even than the castle of Ehrenbreitstein as seen from the bridge of Coblenz.

Before we reached Szaz-varoz, where is a fallen castle encompassing a church, the grand amphitheatre of Transylvanian heights was expanded on every side, with groupes of cattle enlivening the meadows on the banks of the Marocz. When we had crossed that river, the scene became yet richer, by the endless intersection of the skirting line of mountains. Some of them were marked with volumes of smoke from the smelting-works at Kremnitz and Schebnitz, established by the Austrian government for the mines, which produce silver in large quantities and some gold. Almost all travellers through this district have noticed these celebrated mines; which exceed any in Europe, both in depth and in valuable produce. The number of their subterranean inhabitants is very great; many of whom, in families, pass whole years without beholding the light of the sun. Some of these are condemned for crimes; but the greater part voluntarily submit to such a privation of all human comforts.

We traversed this open plain till night; when we arrived at Müllenbach; a fortified town, with gates, and a very ancient church built with great strength, and with no marks of what in other countries is styled ecclesiastical architecture.

April 28.

TRANSYLVANIA.

	Posts.	Eng. Miles.
Reismark	- - 1	- —
Mäg	- - 1	- —
Hermannstadt	- - 1	- 35.

At the village of Sibot we remarked the old church inclosed within an embattled wall, flanked with several towers; and, upon nearer inspection, found a number of small cells or rooms of equal dimensions ranged around. If this has not been a monastery, it has afforded sanctuary against the incursions of the Turks, and served as the last retreat of the wretched inhabitants from plunder and carnage. When the Turks were completely masters of the country, it were reduced to the ruins which we saw.—A very agreeable incident, such as we had before observed, now occurred. A few miles farther on our road there was a rustic dance, with a large assemblage of young persons of both sexes. It being Sunday, they were dressed with all the neatness and ornament they could command; and exhibited an interesting picture of provincial habiliment and manners. The girls were lightly clothed: their hair, in a long braid, was tied with ribbons at the end, or coiled round the head several times. They wore a shift of coarse linen, from the neck to the ankles; with full sleeves, tied above the elbow, and worked with many kinds of worsted. Two aprons of the same materials, woven with a thick and deep fringe, were tied round the waist, and open on each side, not reaching so low as the shift. Many had their feet bare, while others wore clumsy buskins of red leather. Several were pointed out to us as mothers, who had not exceeded their fourteenth year. The music consisted of a guitar with a long finger-board; and a kind of hautboy made of the bark of a tree, which produced much softer tones than could have been expected from its rude shape.

At Mäg, the mistress of the post addressed us in fluent Latin; and bade us adieu with the old Roman salutation at the commencement of a new year, " Multos et felices, domini!" She was an officer's widow.—The late emperor Joseph generally appointed persons connected with the army to direct the post, as a provision for them, with a trifling pension. It is asserted that the Latin language is vernacular at this time in no part of Europe except in what was once the Colonia Trajana, in which Transylvania is included. People of the lowest degree of education are able

to read it, and probably to speak it, with a certain purity; but the peasants mix it with Illyric. It would be more accurate to say, that, instead of their talking Latin, there were more individuals acquainted with that language than in any other country now existing.

At Reismark, previously to our ascending a mountain some miles across, six oxen were put to each carriage, which were encouraged by the incessant vociferations of their drivers. Having by this tedious march at length gained the summit, nothing could be seen beyond the points of surrounding hills on every side of inferior height. At four o'clock, p. m. we found ourselves at the gates of Hermannstadt.

April 29 and 30.

TRANSYLVANIA.

	Hours.	Eog.	Miles.
Talmach (Kalmesch)	4	-	—
Kimanij	-	6	40.

WALACHIA.

The walls of Hermannstadt are not of high antiquity, without battlements, but flanked by frequent towers, all of which have high tiled roofs and scolloped brackets. The walk round the ramparts does not command any advantageous view of them. The town has been re-built since the Austrian possession, and is now occupied by a large garrison. It has one large church, built by Maria Theresa, with a globe and steeple not easily described. In the great square is the house of the governor, Count Bouckenthal, in the best German style, with courts and offices. He gave us a handsome dinner, and Tokay with the dessert. His apartments contained many good pictures, and one interesting to us, found at such a distance from England, an excellent head of Charles I. by Vandyke.

We departed early in the morning from Hermannstadt, and at Talmasch reached the range of Carpathian mountains, now called Fagaressen: it was necessary to ascend them by an arduous journey, as they have a very sudden and sublime elevation, with their summits still white with snow. The ruins of a fortress, probably coeval with the Romans, crowns one of the lower points. A few miles of almost impracticable height led us into the heart of a forest, formed by clusters of pyramidal hills, piled in masses, which seem to pierce the sky. They are closely invested with low wood and innumerable shrubs of great beauty then in full bloom, and divided by many narrow defiles, through which the occasional torrents force their way to the river Oita, or Aluta, beneath, which first shows a wide reach at Roden Thurn, an old fortification. By the treaty with the Turks, this spot was destined

to be the future barrier of the Austrian and Ottoman empires. We now entered on the "Via Carolina," upon which stands a pedestal, marked "Via Carolina in Dacijs aperta 1717," and on another about twelve miles farther, "Sta viator ubi natura stare jussit et ubi virtus Trajani stetit," with more such exorbitant praise, suitable to the vanity of the Emperor Charles VI. Few public works could less deserve encomium, being originally laid out without skill, and forced upon a craggy terrace, without rails or parapet, many yards above the river, when it might with greater ease have been formed along its shores. Had not this perilous way arrested every moment's attention, the constant recurrence of scenery so sublime, in valleys so deep and stupendous, shifting and repeating their perpendicular sides and avenues so frequently, and excluding almost the whole horizon, are objects too peculiarly magnificent to admit of any cessation of admiration.

"*Continui montes ni dissocientur opacā
Valle.*"

HOR. I. 1, epist. 16.

Leaving the "Via Carolina," we descended into a valley to the village of Kinanij, and prepared for our evening repast. Two kids were roasted in the open air, which, with black bread and strong rough wine, made us a supper, much to be envied as we advanced nearer the close of our journey. The cottage where I slept contained children, lambs, kids, and poultry. I had the advantage of sleeping upon straw, upon a raised stage of boards, surrounded with this noisy company. The peasants were well paid for this accommodation, and willingly resigned their cottages. Under a high entrenchment, thrown up by the Austrians in their wars with the Turks, the church, being the first which we saw on the Greek model, attracted notice. The architecture is indeed very rude; but the plan an evident imitation of an ancient temple. The dimensions are small, with a vestibule, having an open arcade and covered ceiling, which, with the front wall, is painted in fresco, and gilt with figures of saints, scriptural legends, and many inscriptions in the Walachian character. The eastern end is embowed, and near the centre rises a low rotunda, having a closed arcade and conic roof, with few and narrow windows. Of several that afterward occurred on our progress, this building was strictly resemblant, excepting that of some, the outside walls were likewise painted with a kind of mosaic cornice, and they had two towers with slated roofs projecting over the sides. The walls within are entirely covered with rude paintings of the Madona and Child, upon grounds of gilding, and without light and shade, strewed with inscriptions. We had now entered Walachia, and the mode of computing our journey was by hours, as used in all

the Eastern countries, which, with the numerous impediments, rarely exceed four or five miles.

May 1.

	Hours.	Eng. Miles.
Dideschti - - 2	-	—
Seletruck - - 3	-	25.

WALACHIA.

Crossing the Aluta, beyond Kinanij, we encountered a long succession of steep hills, which join each other by the narrowest bases, generally occupied by small streams. These accumulated mountains wind as the river shapes its course between them, and seem often to exclude all farther progress, when scenes are presented which combine every grand feature of landscape. In the glens are the variegated tints of silky leaves of low shrubs, intermixed with broad scars of purple rock, which overhang the devious and rugged road. The whole of a long day was passed in ascending these heights, till we reached by torch-light a cottage on the banks of the Dopologo, at Seletruck. We were glad to retire to rest, with no better accommodations than those we found the preceding night. In this district are many large vineyards, which require but little cultivation, and produce a great quantity of wine: but the peasants are entirely ignorant of the process used in other countries, both in making and keeping it; the flavour therefore is inferior.

May 2.

	Hours.	Eng. Miles.
Ardisch - 3	-	—
Piteschti - 3	-	40.

WALACHIA.

Having continued our route for several hours among the mountains, we descended into a wide plain, covered with frequent thickets and inclosures planted with Turkish corn, lentils, and water-melons. We came near Ardisch, which is a town having six churches, and of course large, on our left hand, but did not pass through it. There is a very spacious convent of Greek monks, with several cupolas highly ornamented with twisted columns, having the appearance of Turkish minarehs. In point of architecture and revenues, this monastery exceeds any in Walachia. From this place, where several young women met us carrying sieves, in which was a little Turkish corn, which they offered us as a compliment, we were accompanied by a guard to Piteschti. The dress of these girls very nearly resembled what we had seen in Transylvania. Upon our arrival in the evening we were politely received by two officers of the town, who had prepared a

house for us, and provided a supper *à la Grecque*. We were served with many dishes in succession, but with one only at the same time; and were extremely well inclined to praise the cookery. We slept upon carpets placed on a raised floor. At sunrise we were awakened by the mode in which the modern Greeks are called to prayer. As the Turks hold bells in abhorrence, and will not suffer them in any of their dominions, the expedient is, suspending a piece of board in the steeples, and playing on it with two hammers, which produce a loud and varying sound, to be heard at a great distance.

Some of the more expert form a kind of tune, by no means unpleasing. The Greek religion is professed in Walachia. Their metropolitan and bishops are subject to the patriarch at Constantinople, but appointed by the hospodar or prince. Their revenues are very considerable, as well as those of twelve monasteries, from which only the superiors of the church can be elected. For this, among other causes, the parochial clergy are ignorant, and chosen from the lowest ranks; many of them in so great a degree, as to be scarcely able to read the Greek ritual.

May 3.

WALACHIA.

	Hours.	Eng.	Miles.
Gayeschti	-	3	30.

The same flat country continued, in which nature showed great fertility, little assisted by cultivation. We forded several shoaly streams, near which were villages, which offered nothing to interest. The whole country appeared to be very thinly inhabited; even that part of it which possessed the greatest natural advantages: but cattle of all kinds were abundant. Near the way-side are set up many crosses, made of a singular shape; and beams of wood, carved with inscriptions in the Walachian character. We learned that they had been placed for the repose of the souls of their kindred by the inhabitants, and that their names were specified upon each. The "Aijasina," or consecrated springs, are likewise seen at stated distances. These are protected by a small building, in which is an iron bowl, chained, to refresh the weary passenger, who usually performs a religious ceremony, and repeats prayers. The climate of Walachia is delightful, as the heat is tempered by the breezes from the mountains. The summer was scarcely begun; and we were not much incommoded by it. This evening we were conducted to a small convent at Gayeschti. It has a church, surrounded by mean buildings, and a moat full of the large hoarse frog, incessantly croaking. There are only four religious, who are married, and cultivate their own land. They wear a

dark brown habit, and a cap of black felt, of a peculiar shape, and have spreading beards.

The Egumenos, or principal, received us with much complacency, as he expected to gain considerably by our visit. Notwithstanding, our fare was homely, a pilad of rice and some lentils; and a coarse carpet was spread as usual for our night's repose. Horace has very truly said,—

— mali culices ranaque palustres
Avertunt somnos.

SAT. IV. V. 14.

May 4.

WALACHIA.

	Hours.	Eng.	Miles.
Floreschti	-	3	-
Bucharest	-	3	30.

which capital is situated on the river Domboriza.

The Hospodar, as the reigning prince is styled, had sent his chariot, drawn by six grey horses, on the preceding night, and one of the officers of his household, called the Rhativân, to arrange our reception at Bucharest, where we arrived early in the afternoon. The house of the master of the post was appropriated to our use, containing two large apartments fitted up in the same style, which, according to the manner of the country, served us for every purpose. A raised floor in each, covered with a blue carpet, and surrounded by a divân or continued sofa of square cushions, afforded us repose by day and night; for a bed is as little known in Walachia as in Turkey. Indeed, the whole style, both of dress and furniture, is that of the Turks, rather than of other nations. This circumstance is readily accounted for, as their prince and his multitudinous suite of Greek nobility are natives of Constantinople, where they have passed the greater part of their lives, and have brought its customs with them. They place heavy pieces of tapestry before the doors of each chamber, where servants are in constant waiting, and are called by clapping the hands. We were attended by the prince's servants, among whom he did not forget to send several cooks.

May 5.

Before noon the ambassador, whom we accompanied, was admitted to an audience with the prince, at his palace. No residence could have less the air of royalty, or fewer pretensions to splendour. The state coach which he sent for us was drawn by six horses, and eight Tchoadâars or pages walked at our side. They were habited in close white dresses of cotton, with green silk sashes, tyed in large bows, and high fur caps on their heads. The external appearance of the palace is certainly mean, built of

timber, and low, with slated towers over the gateways. The great staircase leads from a base court, which, beside the palace, contains a church and a range of barracks. As these princes do not constantly inhabit it during their short and precarious government, they are careless about its present unsuitable state; and they spare as little as possible from what they amass from their temporary subjects, to enjoy in their own country, for any magnificence in this.

The Postelnik, or high-marshall, introduced us through a crowd of bojars, of the native nobility, who lined the passage to the presence-chamber, where the Hospodar, descending from his divan, received the ambassador with great courtesy. His name is Alessandro Morozi, about six and thirty years old, his person and air much in his favour, his eyes piercing and intelligent, with a look of uncommon shrewdness. He wore a close vest of flowered muslin; his poignard was studded at the hilt with diamonds, a pink caftan, or robe of damask, with broad facing of ermine, and a kalpac or high cap of green velvet, with the black fox-skin, so much valued in Turkey as to be worn only by the sultan. We were seated with him but a few minutes, when four pages brought napkins of silk, richly embroidered, and fringed with gold, and laid them on our knees previously to a confection of oranges, which was handed to each of us with the same golden spoon. Small cups of coffee, made very thick and strong, in the Turkish fashion, were then served; and in a short time after, as a signal for departure, the pages covered us again with fine muslin napkins, fringed with gold, and poured rose-water on our hands with gold ewers and basons; and lastly, held a pot of incense under our noses. More than fifty of the officers of state and bojars stood around us. The chamber is large, with white walls, only excepting that the bead of the pannel in the ceiling is gilt, and with no furniture but the divan and chair of state. The prince conversed fluently in French with the ambassador about his journey and accommodations. He understands other languages, having been dragoman, or interpreter, to the Grand Vizier; and acted as a commissioner at the signing the peace with the Austrians at Sestovia in 1789, soon after the accession of Selim III. the reigning emperor, where his services procured him this high post. He possesses some patriotism, and an understanding more enlarged, than that of many of his predecessors, by intercourse with foreigners. He is said to govern with clemency a people mured to every description of rapacity, and has established a regular post, a printing-press, and a manufactory of cloth, which has not succeeded. His birth was noble, his father having been Hospodar of Moldavia, and chief of the Moroosi, descended from the Greek emperors, and which, in common

with the houses of Maurokordato, Loozo, and Cantacuzene, enjoys the principalities of Walachia and Moldavia, as their interest prevails at the Porte, though seldom more than four years, without removal or violent death. He was therefore educated in courts, where he acquired that finesse and political acuteness to which he owes his present elevation. Yet, as he possesses all the intriguing spirit of his predecessors, his reign may not be of longer duration. He has two brothers resident at Constantinople, the younger of whom is chief interpreter to the Porte; an office of high political consequence. The entertainment we received at the hotel was liberal, and the collations elegant. An attention was even paid to English taste. Plum-puddings were brought upon Staffordshire ware, and several dishes were on table at the same time.

A dragoman, or interpreter, was assigned to us, who was a man of considerable intelligence, and ready to communicate his knowledge of the country: from him I learned many of the following particulars. The bojars, or native nobility, had formerly the privilege of electing their prince, who was confirmed by the Porte; but their appointment now originates solely there, and an annual tribute is paid of 40,000l. besides secret presents of vast amount, to the officers of state, both to procure and preserve the station. They lost this privilege in 1714, which they had enjoyed since 1520; upon which Constantine Brancovani, the last native Walachian prince, was beheaded. The Porte then nominated Nicolas Maurokordato, without consulting the bojars. The descendants of the Greek emperors were formerly content to apply to the humble occupation of merchants; but this appointment excited their ambition, and they sent their sons to Bucharest to learn European languages, and to qualify themselves for the appointment of interpreter to the Porte, which then certainly led to the principalities of Walachia and Moldavia. The interpreters formerly employed were Christian renegadoes. Since the establishment of the Greek princes in Walachia and Moldavia, fifteen of them have suffered a violent death.

During the late Russian war, this fertile country was nearly exhausted by the foraging of the Turkish army; and the miserable villagers abandoned their flocks, and retired to the mountains. As descendants of the Trajan colony, they still call themselves Romans; and their vernacular language is a mixture of Latin and Sclavonian: the former is extremely debased. At court, the modern Greek and Turkish prevail. The arts and sciences are not more flourishing in Walachia than in other countries subjugated by the Ottoman power. Some study medicine in Germany or Padua; and the merchants speak Italian and modern Greek.

The people in general are extremely superstitious, and duped by the most illiterate priests: they believe in sorcery and ghosts. About fifty years ago, Constantine Maurokordato, when prince, printed a dictionary in three volumes quarto, in modern Greek, French, and Italian, for the use of his subjects; but this effort towards literature has not been seconded, and few books are to be found, excepting of the Greek service and religion, half in Slavonian, and the other in modern Greek. The trade of Wallachia is principally confined to the sending provisions down the Danube to Constantinople, as the pasture is excellent, and the corn and wine abundant. The Aluta is navigable only for rafts of timber and flat boats. The Zingani or gypsies, who are very numerous, and exclusively exercise the business of blacksmiths, find quantities of gold dust in the sands of the Aluta, for which they, last year, paid a tribute to government of 1224 drachms, which produced 1003 when refined. Minerals of every description which are found in Hungary are not less discoverable in the Walachian mountains; yet, from fear of the Turks, or their own want of enterprize, not a single mine is worked in the whole country. Those of rock-salt as clear as crystal, are frequent, and produce a large revenue. The manners and houses of the Walachians resemble those of their Turkish masters. They wear the long dress: the older men have beards, and the younger whiskers. The women are seldom seen in the streets, or exposed to the public eye. In the houses are galleries, with close lattices or windows, made with dried hog's-bladders; for glass is very uncommon.

In the evening our dragoman conducted us to see the marriage-ceremony of one of the bojars of an inferior class. Guests of both sexes, but no unmarried ladies, were assembled in the larger chamber, who sat on cushions cross legged, like the tailors in England, as chairs are not in use. A dancce of very ancient invention, called the Romeika, began after we had paid our compliments. It was conducted entirely by females; one of whom waved an embroidered handkerchief, and extricated herself gracefully from the rest, who coiled round her. The music consisted of a lively air by two violins, as many guitars with strings of cat-gut, and a syrinx or unequal pipe, as seen on statues of Pan and the Satyrs, which was managed with extraordinary skill, and produced tones of great sweetness and effect. Lady M. W. Montague asserts, with truth, that "there is not one instrument to be found on the Grecian and Roman statues, which will not be seen in the hands of the people of this country," a more certain demonstration of their origin, than even the small resemblance to Latin still retained in their language. The company was perpetually changing, and sometimes exceeded forty persons.

Upon admission, the elderly ladies not joining in the dance, were shewn to the divan, where they squat down without ceremony: and where, as a great distinction, we were placed. The men sat round the room; and some of them smoked pipes made of sticks of Jasmin wood, several feet long, and red China boles, with very odiferous tobacco. A married lady, scarcely sixteen, and of superior beauty, handed us a confection of oranges, which was followed by coffee, liqueurs, and lemonade; a ceremony which she performed with unaffected elegance of manner. A second dance commenced, which was ill assorted to a lively air; for it was slow and solemn. All hands were joined, and the whole figure consisted in curtseys and soft motion. During the dance, one of the performers accompanied with an epithalamium in the Walachian language, loudly sang, and with vehement exertions to impress the audience with the excellence of his rhymes. We were told that he was an extemporaneous poet, famous for ready composition, like the improvisatori in Italy.

After a short time we were allowed to see the new-married couples who had retired to a small room opening to the other, in which, as a luxury suited to the occasion, was a bed. The bridegroom, about forty, held the hand of his bride, a younger sister of the lady who had done the honours, whilst they received the compliments of their friends. The bride looked modestly, but had no singularity of dress, beside a long rose-coloured veil, then turned backward over her head. Of the dress and persons of the Walachians many observations occur. The ladies, even in the early periods of life, possess little to fascinate the eyes of an Englishman; and when they have attained more years, they become more corpulent and unsymmetrical in shape. Their necks are very thinly covered with transparent gauze, and a girdle, with a broad clasp, is buckled very low round the waist.

*Tercii strophio luctantes vincta papillas;
Et jacent collo sparsi sine lege capilli.*

OVID.

Their hair is very generally coarse, black, and luxuriant, combed over the forehead, hanging over the ears uncurled, or braided over the shoulders. On the crown of the head is a small cap of white cloth, bound with a wreath of coloured muslin, and decked with tinsel and beads of glass, if they have no jewels. Natural flowers are a very common ornament. Over a vest of white muslin they wear a jacket of satin, closely fitted to the waist, and faced with fur or ermine. The ankle is covered by the petticoat, which shews only the yellow slippers. More taste is not to be discovered in the dress of the men; for the head is shorn, excepting on

the crown, which is covered by a red cap, called a fez, in the place of a wig, and a kalpâc of lamb's wool over it, which serves as a hat. Their ears are wholly exposed, and, with the naked neck behind, have an awkward appearance. Corpulency is very common, particularly in middle age ; and its appearance much increased by the vest being used as a pocket in front. These heavy clothes, loaded with furs, are little adapted to the heat of the climate ; but in dress of ceremony, scarcely any alteration is made on account of season. Fashion has here no influence : the habits of either sex have not varied for ages past, and I have described them, as being peculiar to the Greeks in every part of the Turkish dominions.

The approach to Bucharest shows a vast extent of buildings and numerous cupolas ; for it is said to contain 400 couvents and churches. But, in fact, this metropolis so little resembles the continued streets of other capitals, that it is nothing more than a collection of villages, without regularity or plan. The streets are paved transversely with planks of wood, badly fastened, and much decayed ; so that walking is rendered infinitely tedious. Nearly in the centre of the town are many rows of open shops, Bazârs on the Turkish plan, which are protected from the mid-day sun by a roof of timber frame extending from side to side. A great variety of wares are exhibited, and mechanics employed. Adjoining to this building is the square and great church of St. George, the patron saint of Walachia, in the best modern Greek style. The plan is the same as those already described, upon a much larger scale of dimensions and ornament. The portico is supported by short spiral columns, with capitals of the composite order, or unclassical imitation of the Corinthian. The façade is painted in fresco in compartments of some scriptural story, or mosaic mouldings ; and each of the cupolas to the cornice of their roofs. Within they serve as louvres, and give necessary light, as the windows are few and narrow. The internal area is uninterrupted by seats, which are single, and fixed to the side walls. Fresco paintings of saints, particularly of the equestrians St. George and St. Demetrius, as large as life, are spread over every part, and add in no small degree to the characteristic gloom. The altar is concealed by a painted skreen. All the Greek churches are highly perfumed with incense. It may be conjectured, from analogy, that the ancient temples furnished the original ideas of these edifices : rudely as they are finished, the architectural ornaments are to be traced in many a barbarous adaption of columns of antiquity to capitals of their own imperfect formation, as in Constantinople in the mesques and Greek churches.

The patriarchal church is larger, and has four cupolas, adjoining to the palace of the archbishop, which, with a monastery, is situate on an eminence commanding a pleasant view of the city.

Added to the cares which disturb the enjoyment of the most secure throne, the Hospodar has those which render him the least enviable of European princes. Before he obtains his post, he must have exhausted all the stratagems of courts, assisted by bribery; and, after his establishment, must harass his subjects to procure supplies for the insatiable avarice of the Porte. In the Russian wars, his country is generally the scene of military transactions; and if his conduct be not extremely circumspect, he pays the forfeit of his head, upon suspicion of favouring their advances. Whenever the great Pashas of Bulgaria or Romelia declare a rebellion, they forage his devoted provinces without mercy, and the most terrible devastations have been committed before the Turks have thought it expedient to leave Constantinople in order to restrain them. Of all the princes of Walachia who have fallen sacrifices to the avarice or jealousy of the Turks, the hardest fate seems to have been that of Constantine Bessarabas, after a virtuous reign of twenty-one years. During a Russian war, he was apprehended with his son, and conveyed to the prison of the Seraglio; and after a confinement of six months, in which every hope had been given him of regaining his station, Sultan Achmet III. suddenly ordered his son to be executed, and afterward himself, in the view of the whole court.

The happiest event any of these princes can anticipate, is the power of retiring, after a few years, having made themselves and their numerous relatives and dependants wealthy, to a palace on the shores of the Bosphorus, and the enjoyment of Asiatic luxury. Yet, even there, their restless ambition prompts them to new intrigues, and not one instance is known of a Greek prince, who could refrain from means of endangering his safety, to be hurried to a new appointment, from the very solitude he panted after.

The bojars and officers of the court, who are always of the prince's family, have large revenues, and opportunities of making money rapidly. All these are supplied by the oppression of the people, who suffer more in their property than their persons.

The natural arrogance of the Greek character is very apparent in their manners, unchecked by the presence of the Turks.

May 7th.—8th.

WALACHIA.

		Hours.	Eng. Miles.
Copochen	-	3	—
Catagoren	-	2	—
Dajah	-	3	35

We left Bucharest at ten o'clock in the morning, the prince having deputed ten of his baschliars, or body-guard, to protect us to Constantinople. We were likewise joined by Signor Giaccomazzi, and his attendants, the secretary of the Venetian embassy. Two merchants availed themselves of the opportunity of travelling in safety to Constantinople, so that our whole cavalcade was considerable. Our road led through vineyards or wide thickets, till we came to Copochen, where, as usual, we took possession of wretched cottages for the night. There are no inns in Walachia, and the post-houses do not afford any accommodation, excepting horses, which are small and weak, and seldom used in drawing carriages. At five in the morning our tedious course was resumed over the same rich, but neglected territory to Catagoren and Dajah, at which last place we rested a few hours, during the heat of mid-day. There are many remains of Roman architecture in Walachia, but none of them lay near our road or came within our observation. At one time we were about thirty miles from the famous bridge built by the emperor Trajan over the Danube, the piers and other parts of which are still seen near Widdin. The cottages at Dajah are built partly under ground against a hill, with the earth heaped over a roof of wicker, and in front a shed upon poles; but the inhabitants are decently dressed, and had some excellent coffee in the Turkish manner, to which travellers soon become reconciled, and allow it to be the greatest refreshment on a journey which can be offered.

May 9th.

BULGARIA.

	Hours.	Eng.	Miles.
Guirgevow (Hirshova)	5	-	—
Rustchiuk	1	-	—
Turlak	2	-	40.

We entered Bulgaria, the Mœsia of the Romans, before we arrived at Guirgevow, the first town which may be considered as entirely Turkish, where every house is closed toward the street with high palisadoes, excluding approach. Before the last war, Guirgevow was the chief port, whence the merchandise of Walachia, consisting principally in hides and the provisions of life, were embarked for Turkey and the Black Sea. A fort, inconsiderable in point of extent, commands a broad reach of the Danube, more characteristic than others of that noble but divided river. After many advantages gained by the Russians, the Turks, who never distrust their own valour, made a furious stand at this fortress, and were again defeated, December 6, 1773. The Vizier immediately published through the army,

that the town had been betrayed, and Mavroigeni, the hospodar of Walachia, was brought from Bucharest, and beheaded before his tent. By this expedient of averting a sense of their disgrace, the degenerate Janizaries were kept together for another battle, and prevented from flying to their shops at Constantinople; but they were reserved for a still more ignominious defeat.

In order to gain a more eligible road, we took a large boat with eight oars, and opposed the stream of the Danube very pleasantly, for about two miles. Upon the left-hand shore, over an abrupt bank of porous sand, are scattered many Turkish houses, dispersed in thick groves of cedar and fruit-trees. These were the outskirts of the town of Rustchiuk, and the country retreat of its more wealthy inhabitants. We landed under an old castle, still garrisoned, which, with many minareths nearly as lofty as spires, and chiosques, or summer houses, built and painted with many colours in the Chinese manner, enlivened a river view more than half a mile broad, with many novel and agreeable objects.

The Turkish provincial towns, in general, cover much ground, and it is no proof of great population that they are of great extent. Rustchiuk, like others, is large and straggling. It is very ancient, and said by some geographers to have been "Axiopolis." The house we took possession of, as all those we saw, communicated with the street, by a large gateway and wicket, opening to a court, built partly around. The best part was constructed of wood, and covered with red pantiles, with very close lattices. These were the harèm or women's chambers, who were informed, were overlooking us though they were completely hid from our sight. We were received in a large chiosk, and were served with a dinner in the Turkish manner. We had a wooden spoon given us to eat our pilao, or rice pottage, but no knives and forks. As the fish of the Danube is both excellent and abundant, it made the best part of our repast, but it was brought to us cut into very small pieces, as prepared to be eaten with the fingers. Servants attended with basouls and ewers of water to drink or wash with; and we were indulged with wine, which was procured from the shop of a Jew in the neighbourhood. As this was the first interview we had with a Turk, and a specimen of the domestic habits of those in the middle rank of life, I have mentioned these minute circumstances.

May 10th.

		Hours.	BULGARIA.	
			Eng.	Miles.
Pezantzi	- -	3	-	-
Turlak	- -	4	-	40

Having engaged an additional guard of eight men, who undertook to be our guides, through the intricate passes of Mount Hæmus, as the more public road was probably infested with banditti, we left Rustchiuk, which from the hill above it gains a still more agreeable appearance from the perfect novelty of its component features. We then passed a plain of little variety or extent to Pezantzi, where we found ourselves at the foot of a vast range of mountains, which in the East are denominated collectively by a single appellation of the highest point, Mount Hæmus. Both Mount Ida and Mount Olympus are a chain of hills.

This tract is rendered still more formidable by arduous roads, and armed robbers and insurgents, who seize all they can meet with, as plunder. The close of the evening brought us to Tur-lak, where many female peasants crowded around us, one of whom was presented to us as a bride. She had on a cap or paper crown, with shreds of gold thread tied in bunches, and plated all over with small pieces of coin, strung together like fish-scales. Others had them interlaced with their braids of hair. The Bulgarian ladies have many of gold, which they exhibit in a similar manner; and it is asserted, that the more rare of the imperial or ancient Greek coins have been frequently discovered by travellers so applied, and as having been transmitted from the remotest generations. They wear them too, sewn on ribbands appendant to their head-dress, and hanging down to their heels. They cherish as a very favourite ornament, broad clasps of silver gilt, fastened about two thirds round each arm, as bracelets. Concerning the antiquity of these fashions it would be difficult to determine exactly; but as they are tasteless in themselves, we would give them a dignity by referring them to the most distant period. So religiously are they preserved, that no rank of life is scarcely so mean as to be deprived of them, and it is not uncommon to see even children, naked and hungry, decorated with these pieces of money, the value of which would clothe and feed them for a year.

May 11th.

BULGARIA.

	Hours.	English Miles.
Rasgat	- - 3	- —
Beshlikuy	- - 1	- 25

The extreme base of Mount Hæmus extended for many miles before the ascent became more precipitate than the usual level of a hilly country. Near Rasgat we remarked the first Turkish cemetery of many acres in extent, thickly shewn with hillocks, most of which were marked with upright pieces of marble

carved with turbans and with inscriptions cut in alto relieveo. Some were of a ruder form, as probably being architectural fragments and columns, the remains of ancient buildings.

The reason that these burying-places are so much more extensive than those in Christian countries, is, that one grave is appropriated to each person, a custom which it would be deemed sacrilege to interrupt.

By slow advances we arrived at Beshlikuy early in the evening, but were advised not to commence our route through the defiles of Mount Haemus without the day before us. We took up our temporary abode in an open hovel, and reposed at night upon straw, as no Turk in the village would receive us. The necessity, in that case, of suffering their women to be seen, made them resist money, the greatest of all temptations.

In this region, which has been frequently the scene of military transactions, we observed, near the road, many small tumuli, which are always thrown up before the ceremony of hoisting the "Sanjâk Scherife," or holy banner, which was then planted on them in the centre of the army. In many instances, these mounds of earth are the simple but most durable monuments of thousands who have fallen in the field.

May 12th.

BULGARIA.

		Hours.	English Miles.
Temkuy	- -	3	-
Shumblah	- -	4	35

The road led over rising grounds with gradual elevation towards the mountains, now partially cultivated in small patches, but universally showing former depopulation, and the hopeless indigence of the present inhabitants. As to the government or political state of this subjugated kingdom, for several centuries the scourge and dread of the lower Greek Empire, and of great military fame, it is now that of the worst species of the feudal system. The Pasha or governor has numerous Zaims and Timars, each of which are held by what was once called in England knight's service, that of bringing so many armed men into the field, whenever summoned by their chief. So frequently does this obligation recur, that the peasants, who are forced likewise to cultivate the estates of their lord, and to pay him a heavy tribute, have neither leisure nor encouragement to derive more than natural advantages from a most fertile soil and genial climate.

Before mid-day we halted at Temkuy, and having applied in vain for a reception into some cottage, we assembled under a spreading plane tree, and refreshed ourselves with coffee and

sleeping upon mats. To prevent delay, for neither threats nor persuasion could hasten the horses, at least their masters, into more than a foot-pace, we dined late in the evening. Our fare was constantly fowls, or lambs, roasted or prepared with rice. These provisions were collected on the road by our guards, who took them without scruple from the villagers, and then demanded a very exorbitant price for them proportioned to our necessity. Sometimes we were followed by the poor pillaged people, who vociferated the most opprobrious names, which we luckily did not understand, but without making the least resistance.—We entered Shumblâh, which is a post, strongly defended both by nature and art, commanding the straits over the mountains. Like all towns in Bulgaria, it consists of miserable cottages, with their great gate and garden, and covers a very large space. It has not even minarets so tall, as to make it interesting at a distance. Near the close of the last war, Shumblâh was considered by the Turks as impregnable, an opinion strengthened by many superstitions, and a confidence that no human power could force these entrenchments. As it was the retreat of the Turks when they fled, they had assembled there to the number of 40,000 men, who were routed by 12,000 Russians, and the multitude put to the sword must shock our humanity, or exceed our belief.

May 13th.

BULGARIA.

		Hours.	Eng. Miles.
Nevsha	-	3	—
Pravadi	-	3	25

Before we came Nevsha we were entertained by a dance of Zingane, or gypsey girls, in a very free style, which they practise to gratify the Turks, who pay them with more liberality, than they usually display. That singular race of people, the inhabitants of every country in Europe, have here the same swarthy faces and peculiar language. They are likewise tinkers, play tricks, and tell fortunes; and there is scarcely a difference between the gypsies of Norwood, and those who lurk in the groves at the foot of Mount Haemus. The hills, on either side, had now a lumpy appearance with white scars or shrubs low and even, as if they had been clipped, or like artificial mounds of earth. Now and then they approached nearer to picturesque, when the bared ridge that universally shrouded the summit, showed like a dilapidated castle or city wall. It is a melancholy trait of society and manners, that the shepherd and husbandman do not venture into the field without a pistol and dagger at their girdle;—such is the perpetual alarm of these military husbandmen.

A broad defile of rocks, abrupt at their basis, and about ten miles in length, led to Pravadi. In the meadows were many buffaloes feeding; but before we saw them, the whole district, at least within the scope of our road, seemed to be destitute both of flocks and herds. The town of Pravadi is seated at the base of a lofty precipice, said to have been shaped into regular works by the Genoese, during their possession of the shores of the Black Sea, and is a favourable specimen of a Turkish view, at a point within a mile. We were lodged in an unfurnished house, and experienced all the inconvenience which the dirtiness of the Bulgarians occasions in a peculiar degree. That the plague should originate, or, however that may be, that it should remain with them, can excite no wonder in one who has passed a night under such roofs. This is perhaps the language of an English traveller, who, accustomed at home to accommodations, the lowest of which are great by comparison, betrays an impatience, which a farther acquaintance with all the possible convenience of travelling in the Turkish empire may correct or reconcile.

The glaring cliffs are extremely curious on account of their massiveness and height, but they possess nothing for the painter; a deficiency amply made up to the botanist from the abundance of flowering herbs and mosses. Dr. S. marked them, as having contributed very greatly to the rare collection he was then making, and for which he pursued untrodden paths with industry, not to be subdued by circumstances, generally considered as impracticable.

Above the heights of Pravadi were many eagles soaring round their eyries, where they breed in great numbers. It was the first time that we observed so many of those majestic birds on the wing.

May 14th.

BULGARIA.

	Hours.	Eng. Miles.
Chonbrookuy	- 3 -	—
Kasanlik	- - 2 -	25

Leaving Pravadi at day-break, and having passed a woodland tract to Chonbrookuy, another hut, with many surrounding it, we had not advanced more than twelve miles, from the mulish obstinacy of our guards, who reserve the middle of the day for sleep. A village is, at all events, preferable to a town in Bulgaria; for a street exhibits nothing but desolation and the mutual distrust which its inhabitants avow. The women in loose surtouts of dark green cloth, with kerchiefs of muslin concealing the whole face excepting the nose and eyes, seem to have just escaped from premature interment. They peeped through the

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doors with much curiosity, but fled immediately when observed. Never before having obtained even so imperfect a sight of Turkish women, some idea was given of the degraded state of female life among them, particularly in the lower ranks of society.

Sepulchral tumuli, which were many yards high, and regularly smooth with turf to their summits, are often seen, and mark the slaughter in those conflicts for dominion, which this wretched country has experienced for several centuries. When the Turks were extending their dominion in Europe, these mounds were thrown up to mark the progress of their victories.

May 15.

BULGARIA.

	Hours.	Eng. Miles.
Balkan	4	—
Aïtes	1	20

ROMELIA.

We began to ascend one of the extremities of the Balkan, as all high mountains are called in Turkey. This is likewise known by the name of Heminy-dagh, an evident corruption of Mount Haemus.

Although the roads over Mount Haemus are sufficiently impracticable, they are rendered more terrible, as they are the retreat of banditti, a danger certainly great; but which it is the policy of the guards and peasants to enhance, and they demand a gratuity in proportion as they report it to have been. We fortunately escaped. Mount Haemus is indeed the site of all those beauties in landscape which the poets have described as peculiar to it, and realizes their happiest imagery. Deep glens, impenetrable shades of gigantic chesnuts, shrubs aromatic, and producing the gayest flowers, and rivulets in rich succession, account for the preference paid to these scenes by Virgil, on the report of the ancients, for we do not know, that he ever visited them in person.

—O qui me gelidis in valibus Hami
Sistat! et ingenti ramorum protegat umbra!—

GEORGIC. I. 2, 483.

The forests in Walachia and Bulgaria abound in many kinds of fruit-trees, particularly cherries, apricots, vines, &c. For many of the flowers we were too early in the year, but they are found as numerous and exquisite, as in the most cultivated gardens in a less genial soil. Art strives in vain to equal nature, and the richest garden must yield to the mountain recesses, which we had then under our contemplation, and which, as totally uninhabited, are lost to mankind.

At the opposite base of Mount Haemus, we entered Romeia, and followed a winding glen, occasionally a torrent bed, but

snow of a small stream, with huge stones, which had been precipitated from the summit. The skreens on either side, were inconceivably lofty, with broad masses of rock impending so far, that immediate falling might be apprehended. The trees were generally, the dwarf oak, with jessamine, wild roses, and spring flowers, in the greatest perfection and plenty. Our route was taken purposely to avoid ascending Mount Hæmus, and lay entirely between two of the least considerable heights, so that our elevation was not greater than we had before experienced in Transylvania, and the whole distance not exceeding above sixteen miles.

At Kasanlik we were met by peasant women, who congratulated us on escaping the perils of Mount Hæmus and begged money, and a few miles farther we rested with the usual accommodations at Dobrâb.

May 16.

ROMELIA.

	Hours.	Eng. Miles.
Aitos	- - 4	- 25

Over an uninteresting country of covert lanes or waving heath, without the intervention of a single village, we came to Aitos, a considerable place in point of extent. We were conducted to the Khan, or general receptacle of all strangers and their horses. A very large open room like a barn receives the latter, and, most commonly, their masters were indulged with a loft spread with matting, extremely dirty, and with heaps of dust swept into the corners of the room. The actual inconvenience was not a little increased by the dread of catching the plague, and the constant succession of the tenants of this wretched mansion rendered escape the less to be relied on. We procured some dried rushes and hay, on which we reposed, having been all alike strangers to a bed or even a carpet since we left Bucharest, as I was at that time, as well as Dr. S. martyrised with a bilious fever, produced by the malariä which affects most of the inhabitants at the approach of summer.

May 17.

ROMELIA.

	Hours.	Eng. Miles.
Faki	- - 4	-
Kirkeclissa	- - 4	35

At Kirkeclissa we were distant ten miles only from the Euxine or Black Sea, our view of which was excluded by a high mountain.

We encountered no new feature of landscape till we reached

a scene of singular appearance. It was a plain, some miles across, almost covered with huge fragments of rock, sometimes single, and as often romantically piled in groupes, and intermixed with thickets and shrubs, whilst those upon the summits of the surrounding hills were more massive, and gave under the glow of the setting sun the effect of continued fortresses and towers. They had the same appearance in the distance. Many of these huge stones and detached rocks on the plain, are so disposed as to represent Druidical temples, and many are so large as to equal Stonehenge in size and extent.

Habit or the fear of banditti prevented our guards from attending us after sun-set, so that, though we were at Kirkeclissa at five o'clock in the afternoon, they would not advance a step farther. The forty Greek churches which gave name to this town, have long since disappeared. Perhaps, there were never near that number, as the Turks use the word "forty" when they mean many. Those that remained undemolished, are converted into mosques. The inhabitants are principally Polish Jews, who from the rich pastures in the neighbourhood, which they rent of the Pacha, send great quantities of cheese and butter to the markets of Constantinople.

May 18.

ROMELIA.

	Hours.	Eng. Miles.
Burgaz	3	—
Tchiorli	2	—
Koumburgaz	1	30

From Kirkeclissa to Burgaz (Arcadiopolis or Pyrgos,) we passed through the same desolate country, without houses, cultivation, or water. The soil indeed is blessed with spontaneous fertility, producing plants and shrubs of the greatest beauty. Roses grow in such abundance, that the otto, which requires the greatest quantity, is extracted from them by the merchants of Adrianople, and forms an article of a very valuable traffic. Agriculture and even vineyards are universally neglected. It was curious to see twelve or fourteen oxen harnessed by their horns, and three or four men with a single plough of the most inconvenient construction, and one is tempted to believe, that the art of tillage is almost unknown. Near Burgaz is found a deep red-coloured clay, resembling that used for the Etruscan ware, of which porcelaine is now made; which is principally used for the heads of long Turkish pipes, and richly gilt. Basons for drinking sherbet were offered us for sale; wrought in rich patterns in a kind of mosaic, as figures are forbidden by the Mohammedan

law. From Burgàz to Tchiorli crossing the Erigene (Agriane), a small river, there is little variety, for no description of landscape can be more monotonous than the Turkish, in its artificial features. Upon our right we caught a first sight of the Sea of Marmora, with the immense rock of white marble, which gave name to the island. After having passed so many days in forests or desert plains, the pleasing variety and repose of a sea prospect can be well imagined. The chain of Mount Hæmus rose in the extreme distance behind us with great elevation. Tchiorli (the ancient Turulose) was taken by Orehan 1360, from the Emperor John Paleologus, and rased to the ground. At Koumburgàs, we passed the night in the Khàn, which is very large and ruinous. All the roads which lead to the metropolis of the Ottoman empire are as much neglected and as impracticable, as the worst village highway in England.

May 19.

ROMELIA.

		Hours.	Eng. Miles.
Bàrdos	- -	3	-
Selivrea	- -	2	25

A few miles beyond Koumburgàs, we halted to inspect the "Makroteike," or famous long wall built by the Emperor Anastasius, at the close of the fifth century, to protect his capital and its luxuriant environs from the predatory incursions of the Goths and Bulgarians. It extended from Selymbria on the shores of Marmora to the Euxine sea, about sixty English miles. It was a magnificent work conducted by Eterius, the minister of that Emperor, and his architect. The wall was single with a deep vallation and very frequent towers, consisting of three sides of a square facing the enemy's country. At present, though the line of fortification is perfect, few of the towers are seen above the high mound made by their ruins. We rejoiced that our road commanded the view of Marmora without interruption for many miles, which happily relieved the tiresome sameness of our former journey.

Nothing could exceed the richness and beauty of our first view of the ancient city of Selymbria, corrupted by the Turks to Selivrea. The town lies at the foot of the great palace or castle, which has the boldest situation, being engrafted on a jutting point of rock which overhangs the sea. In itself it is a very majestic ruin, but its grand accompaniment is the connection with the long wall, already mentioned, as the fortification round the old city has a simple wall, and the towers are more numerous and massive, and have suffered less dilapidation. They are embattled upon deep brackets, like those of Constan-

tinople, with which they are contemporary, and were the prototype of a mode of building castles introduced by the crusaders into France and England, and perhaps into Italy. Selymbria was the palace and principality of John Paleologus, after he had been deprived of the Byzantine throne, and was besieged and taken by Mohammed II. before his final conquest of Constantinople.

May 20.

ROMELIA.

	Hours.	Eng. Miles.
Bujück -	3	--
Couchout Checmedgeh	-	--
Elyüb	2	25
Constantinople —	-	--

“Selymbriæ, temuit nos jucundus placidi maris aspectus, iuvitque alludentibus undis in littore conchas legere, et delphinorum spectare choros, coelique illius tepore frui. Namque dici non potest, quæ fuit illi temperies, quam mite clemensque cœlum.” This journey was taken in 1586.

Still within a mile or two of the shores of Marmora, we were delighted with the singular amenity of the scene, and the softness of the sea air, which rendered the meridian heat by no means oppressive. Since our departure from Vienna, we had been favoured in respect to weather, and were never delayed upon that account; and what may be considered as more fortunate, as being more uncommon, we travelled over the rugged and devious roads without sustaining accident or injury. The ambassador Busbequius, in his entertaining and accurate Letters concerning Turkey, speaks of these prospects as most interesting, and we found them equaling the extent of his praise.

Traversing this delicious coast a little farther, we passed through a large Turkish village called Buyock Checkmedgeh, (Great Drawbridge) situated at the head of a beautiful lake, falling into the sea through an inlet over which is a long causeway and bridge, built by Selim II. in 1568. This road soon brought us to Conchuck Checkmedgeh (Pontepiccolo) where we rested at mid-day to enjoy the shade, and to prepare ourselves for our entrance into Constantinople. A more interesting village I had not seen in point of situation and its accompaniments, with a perfect novelty of features, as it stands enveloped in the shade of plane trees and cypresses of most extraordinary bulk. Our attention was soon attracted to the widely spreading plane tree in the middle of the road, under which several mats were spread and occupied by Turks, who were smoaking, and seemed lost in the enjoyment of such serenity. Adjoining was an open

wooden building, in an airy Chinese style, painted with many colours, where others were preparing and serving coffee with great assiduity. We willingly availed ourselves of this grateful repast. In one corner sat a musician, who recited and sang Turkish verses in a very loud and inharmonious tone, to the tinkling of a tambour or mandoline with a long neck and four strings, which he struck with a quill. Love was the burden of his song, as of all others in Turkey, but his expressions of tenderness were ridiculous, conveyed in such a tone and with such gesticulation! The houses wore a much better appearance, and were usually inclosed in gardens abounding in trees, which are merely exotic shrubs in our climate, and with cedars very unlike their meagre representatives in England. The Turks are really to be envied their luxury of reposing whole days under such a grand leafy canopy, to screen them from the intense rays of the sun.

Within a few miles of Constantinople, we entered a thick grove of cypress in every stage of vegetation, and many of stupendous size. These form the great cemeteries which lead to the gates of the city, and occupy many acres in the centre of a dreary waste. The Campagna itself is not more desolate than the European environs of the sister capital of the Roman world.

The effect of these cemeteries is sombre and appropriate. Emerging from their shades, we came to the "Chiftlik," or country seat of the Vizier Daut Pacha. It is a quadrangular building with open galleries, and in one of the angles is a mosque, with a cupola of very elegant construction. But the whole was in a state of decay, as if it had no owner. As it is situated on an eminence, it presented to us Constantinople in all her magnificence. The towers of the temple wall, which extends nearly four miles from the harbour to the sea, rose in front, and were beautifully contrasted by the hundred cupolas and tall minarets skirting the horizon, and proudly issuing from the sea. After descending a hill, we found ourselves in the narrow and dismal streets of Elyub, intermixed with sepulchral stones. We then crossed the head of the canal over a rivulet, called the "Sweet Waters." The canal was nearly covered with boats of a very fanciful construction and richly gilt, and exhibited a brilliant spectacle, as the Sultan was at that instant returning from his Chiosk, or banqueting-house, at Chiätkanah. This most enchanting scene was laid out, about a century ago, by a French Ambassador, to give the Turks an idea of European gardening. It is Fontainbleau or any of the other royal gardens in miniature, excepting statues, which the Turkish scruples would not allow.

Ascending the opposite hill to the Campo de Morte, we entered the suburb of Pera, and arrived at the English Palace at the close of day, where we were received by Sir Robert Ainslie with great hospitality and politeness.

Total extent of the Journey.

	Miles.
From London to Vienna	795
From Vienna to Bucharest	670
From Bucharest to Pera	385
Total	1850

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